■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Waste, chemicals, threaten to kill off life in the North Sea

Pollution, caused mainly by treated sewage and the dumping of chemical waste, threatens to kill the North Sea biologically.

At the end of January, the West German fisheries research ship, Anton Dorn, returned from a brief research trip to the German Bight near Heligoland.

There its crew of scientists caught fish and examined them for traces of chemicals and diseases caused by pollution.

They have not yet completed the tests, but it is already clear that the North Sea has taken as much chemical and other waste as it can cope with.

Some scientists say that the limit of what it can cope with has long since been exceeded.

The National Fisheries Research Institute in Hamburg believes it can pinpoint two main causes of the diseases affecting ever larger numbers of fish in the area: diluted acid and treated sewage from Hamburg.

Diluted acid is "disposed of" 20 miles off Heligoland in the sea. This acid is a by-product in the production of titanic oxide, a whitener used for toothpaste and also to bleach clothes.

Scientists reckon that the diluted acid increases the iron content of the water so that the fish simply cannot take it in through their gills.

The treated sewage, dumped into the mouth of the Elbe in Hamburg, probably affects the oxygen content of the water. Up to now there have been no large-scale deaths of fish here, as if often the case on the Lower Elbe. But there soon could be.

It is unlikely that the treated sewage and the diluted acid are alone responsible for the pollution problems in the German Bight and North Sea, which have been causing concern for some time. One of these problems is fish diseases. Plaice, sole, flounder and cod suffer from many diseases: deformation of the spine, rotting fins, stunted growth and large tumours, mainly on the skin around the mouth but also on other parts of the body.

These tumours are cauliflower-shaped. Some of the fish have their heads covered in these growths.

Sick fish are most frequently found near land. This is hardly surprising when one considers how much filth a river like the Elbe has poured into the North Sea with its complicated currents over the years.

Pollution affects not only fish but also other living things: animals and plants.

The Heligoland Bird Observatory reported years ago that it had found substances such as DDT and PCB in the fatty tissue of seals and birds. The sea birds had obviously been infected by the food they ate, fish.

Last year hundreds of dead sea birds, gulls, ducks and other birds were washed up on the North Frisian coast were covered in oil, which had ... their feathers and got into the stomachs.

But no large oil slick was spotted ... director of the Heligoland Bird Observatory said at the time: "There are oil slicks and patches all over the ... Sea."

The Fisheries Research Institute does not want to create panic.

It does not want to play the "nature protector at all costs." Nor does it object in principle to the use of the sea for dumping waste.

However, the scientists think that the limits of what the sea can take have been reached.

The remaining Elbe fishermen have to sail out miles from the coast if they want to catch enough fish.

A large part of the Lower Elbe is already virtually dead. And the scientists fear that the same could soon be true of the German Bight.

Karsten ...

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 26 January ...)

Pollution in the Rhine 'still serious'

The river Rhine is still seriously polluted, despite improvements along some stretches, according to the International Rhine Water Supply Committee.

In the past 10 years, there have been improvements in the middle and lower parts of the river.

But other stretches of the lower Rhine were polluted with "thousands of dangerous substances" whose effects on health had still had to be completely researched.

Eighty-four water works in Switzerland, Austria, France, West Germany and the Netherlands, supplying drinking water to almost 20 million people, are represented in the IRWSC.

The oxygen deficit in the river had been reduced in the past years because several purification plants had been built and better waste disposal methods had been introduced by a number of industrial companies. The pollution by dissolved, organically bound carbons from industry and households had also been reduced.

The water suppliers now say that the river between Karlsruhe and Wiesbaden is "moderately to severely polluted."

There is still too much dissolved organically-bound chlorine floating around in the Rhine and there had been no improvement in this situation in the past 10 years.

There were still no detailed surveys of the nature, extent and origin of the pollution of the river, nor were there any national or international targets for the purity of Rhine water.

The Rhine states have signed a chemicals pact aimed at reducing pollution of the river, but so far not a single internationally agreed figure limiting the amount of chemicals pumped into the Rhine had been agreed.

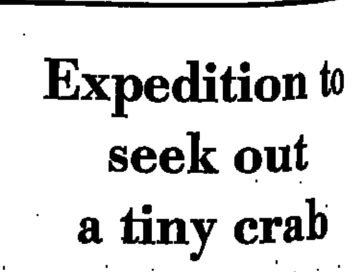
In Alsace, nothing whatever had been done to reduce the excessive amount of salt dumped. Hundreds of thousands of tonnes of salt were pumped into the Rhine and been reached.

In North Rhine-Westphalia, 70 per cent of water consumers were served by biological water purification plants and more plants would be built to serve another 20 per cent.

The Land agriculture minister, ... Bäumer, stressed that the water pipe network needed overhauling. He said purification plants with 90 per cent efficiency were little use if huge amounts of pollutants got into the network during heavy showers.

He said that there would in future also be more thorough checks on industrial sewage pipelines leading into local sewerage systems.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 6 February ...)



Expedition to seek out a tiny crab

Ten research ships from six different countries will set off at the end of the year to try to estimate how much krill there is in the seas of the Antarctic.

Krill, a tiny crab, has a high protein content and, if caught in large numbers, could help solve some of the world's food problems.

The countries involved are West Germany, the Soviet Union, Chile, Argentina, South Africa and the US.

The scientific committee preparing the expedition met recently at the Kiel Oceanography Institute to finalise details.

The ships, including the Walther Herwig and the Meteor from West Germany, are taking part in a major project, of which the krill investigation is a part, involving the Antarctic and its ecosystem.

Information will be pooled and fed into a computer in Hamburg.

The main aims are to find out about the currents and temperature and the interreactions between the small shrimp-like crabs and their environment.

The Kiel Conference also studied wider questions of climate change, the pollution of the sea and basic research on the mining of raw materials from the sea.

It planned a 10 year programme to study the interaction between the ocean and the atmosphere in order to understand and be better able to predict major changes in climate.

Satellites will have an increasingly important role to play here. They will observe the currents and the surface of the sea and check the movement of buoys which float with the currents to gather information.

The problem of how much pollution from household and industrial waste the ocean could absorb was prominent on the agenda. The purification plants built in recent years have had a positive effect but there is still far too much dangerous waste being pumped into the Baltic.

The discussion of the continental shelf and the origin of rifts in the ocean gave an insight into the problems of deep-sea mining.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 2 February ...)

The German Tribune

Hamburg, 24 February 1980
Nineteenth Year - No. 929 - By air

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Disunity of West too deep to cover up

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan ought really to have made the Nato countries close ranks. But instead, differerences of opinion have come to light.

What is more, these differences have proved so serious they can no longer be papered over with protestations of solidarity.

One feels bound to wonder how the North Atlantic pact is to fare in future and how future crises might be better handled.

Recriminations are rife on all sides. The European countries complain that the United States told them (and consulted them) too little and too late.

America, they say, has proved too prone to progressing by leaps and bounds, while the Americans complain that Europe is not making a extra effort to maintain Nato's military strength.

There are even more deep-seated suspicions of a decline, on both sides of the Atlantic, in understanding for mutual problems.

The United States was far from happy with the heated debate in European Nato countries about the decision to step up arms programmes.

It was coupled with an offer to Moscow to hold talks on a reduction in medium-range missile potential, but Washington was half-hearted in its backing for this linkage.

By 12 December, the day on which Nato announced its decision, the US Senate had not even managed to put the finishing touches to ratification of Salt 2.

By then a fund of misunderstanding had accumulated in the minds of many US politicians about the keen interest shown by Europeans in progress on arms control.

But Europe could work on the assumption that the Carter administration endorsed a different policy and that the President was personally interested in halting the arms race and reducing tension.

Then came the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. It not only showed that Moscow continues to pursue imperialist policies wherever it encounters no hindrances; it also took Europe by surprise.

US intelligence reported in November that the Soviet Union was mobilising reservists to bring a number of units to full strength and posting them to the Afghan frontier.

But Washington failed to relay this information to its Nato allies, despite treaty obligations to consult and inform them.

Above all, however, Mr Carter announced in his State of the Union address that the United States considered the Persian Gulf to be a US sphere of influence and was prepared to lend the Gulf states military assistance if necessary.

This doctrine too had its shortcomings. The Gulf states had not been asked whether they felt any need for protection and the Nato countries had not been informed in advance of the change in policy emphasis.

Yet its implementation would oblige the Europeans to plug gaps that could hardly fail to open up if the United States were to step up its commitments in the Gulf, so prior consultation would have been very much to the point.

It is, of course, easy to appreciate President Carter's position. He was already under pressure over the hostages at the US embassy in Tehran.

But the sequence of his moves, their

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi visited Bonn this month, where he had talks with the Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt. Above, he is pictured with Bonn Minister of Economic Co-operation Rainer Offergeld. (Photo: Bundesbildstelle)

Bonn's ear of sympathy for Kenya's plight

Kenya, whose President Daniel Arap Moi has just paid Bonn a state visit, is often billed as an exemplary African country run on free market principles.

Suddenly, after years of uninterrupted boom, it has come up against economic difficulties that could lead to grave economic and political crisis if foreign assistance is not given.

This is a prospect that must surely alarm the West, since Kenya is a pro-Western country and a potential stabilising factor in the tension-laden Horn of Africa.

So Bonn is bound to lend a generous helping hand in view of the succession of difficulties that have beset Kenya.

First, the price of coffee, the country's main export commodity, has slumped. This called into question ambitious development plans based on the assumption of high coffee earnings.

Kenyan industry, tailor-made to serve a regional market, has been hard hit by the collapse of the East African Economic Community comprising Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Industry and agriculture are already unable to provide jobs for all, and Kenya has a population growth rate of $3^1/_2$ per cent.

One of the world's highest, it holds forth the prospect of social dynamite in years to come.

The country has been driven into a particularly tight corner by oil price increases. Last year Kenya had to spend nearly 30 per cent of its export earnings on an oil bill totalling almost $650m.

President Arap Moi recently visited Saudi Arabia, but failed to bring home the hoped-for relief, partly, no doubt, because Kenya is on not unfriendly terms with Israel.

The West is bound to be interested in maintaining political stability in Kenya, given its strategic location in a current crisis area.

Nairobi is keen to step up economic cooperation with 2onn, its second-largest trading partner and investor of DM78m in the Kenyan economy.

Renate Peltzer

(Handelsblatt, 14 February 1980)

Chancellor in Brussels

Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt (right) was in Brussels this month for talks with Belgian Premier Wilfried Martens. The two leaders dealt with the political situation in the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the stand the EEC should take on the Soviet move, the Moscow Olympics, continuation of detente policy and security matters. (Photo: dpa)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Olympic boycott wrangle 'degenerates into a question of creed'

President Carter could not have been surprised at the International Olympic Committee's decision to hold the summer Olympics in Moscow, come what may.

Any other decision (postponement, relocation or cancellation) would have meant expecting the IOC to ignore its own rules and to deal a mortal blow to the Olympics as a whole.

But the IOC decision has by no means saved the Olympic peace and taken the political hurdle.

For a day it looked as if Jimmy Carter would extend his ultimatum to the Soviet Union to 24 May (the deadline for registration) to give Moscow time and scope for a gesture of peace.

But then he sharply criticised the IOC decision, demanding that the US Olympic Committee promptly resolve to boycott the Games.

"Alternative Games" as conceived by the President are to console the athletes who will not be able to go to Moscow this summer for political reasons.

But this would make further East-West sport contacts impossible for the foreseeable future.

In this situation which, if anything,



has been aggravated still further, Bonn finds itself under rising US pressure because Carter knows that only a clear move from Bonn could make the hesitant Europeans join the boycott.

The President thus demands solidarity at any cost — as if his partners were satellites and not allies with whom a common political strategy should be worked out in response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

So there are plenty of good reasons why Bonn should keep its back covered in the boycott matter.

Disregarding the postponement proposal by Willi Weyer, which is nonsensical because it is counter to IOC rules, only Foreign Minister Genscher, Defence Minister Apel and Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff have come up with a formula.

But this is unlikely to please President Carter because no German politician has so far said that he finds it intolerable to hold the Games in the country of an aggressor. They only spoke of solidarity.

The fact that Carter is using his authority primarily to deal a mortal blow to the Olympic idea, neglecting to develop a political strategy towards the Soviet Union, has made the discussion of the boycott degenerate into a question of creed: those who, for political reasons, consider a boycott futile, thereby minimising the invasion of Afghanistan, are unreliable or, to say the least, naive.

The end of the Olympics would certainly not make the world more peaceful. Instead, the Soviet Union would become even more aggressive and blind to political facts.

It must be permissible to think along these lines as an expression of doubt in the meaningfulness of a boycott without this casting a wrong light on the doubters.

These realisations and the fear that a rigid boycott threat would provide Moscow with a cheap and effective opportunity for a counter-offensive in the Third World cannot save Bonn from the present dilemma.

American pressure makes it almost impossible for Bonn to postpone a formal Cabinet decision on the boycott until May.

But whether an extorted recommendation by Bonn to the German sports organisations to boycott the Games would be effective remains to be seen.

Interior Minister Baum has already said that Bonn does not consider enforcing any recommendation (for instance by withholding funds).

And CDU Chairman Helmut Kohl has already said that he would abide by any IOC decision.

German NOC President Willi Daume, struggling to save the Games, has therefore said — and not only for tactical reasons — that, in keeping with IOC rules, the German athletes will decide freely.

His announcement that the athletes themselves would be asked indicates that official Bonn and the sports associations differ on the boycott issue.

But such a double strategy need not necessarily be a disaster.

Karl-Heinz Krumm

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 14 February 1980)

Schmidt tells Brezhnev of need for talks

Chancellor Helmut Schmidt recently wrote to Leonid Brezhnev, voicing concern over a possible increase of East-West tension in the wake of the invasion of Afghanistan.

Informed circles in Bonn say that the Chancellor also stressed the need for talks to ease tension and present further deterioration.

The envisaged visit to Moscow some time this year, Bonn circles say, was mentioned only in general terms. Herr Schmidt stressed his continued willingness to talk.

By stressing the need for talking the Chancellor expressed concern over the break in contacts between Carter and Brezhnev.

CDU MP Elmar Pieroth called on the government to correct the ambiguous impression it has given in the matter of economic sanctions.

dpa

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 12 February 1980)

Election campaign 'drawn into vortex of Afghanistan'

Germany's election campaign has been drawn into the vortex of the Afghanistan crisis along with the Olympics.

This applies equally to the three elections in the *Länder* which take place before the national election as it does to the Bundestag election itself.

Even Shadow Chancellor Franz Josef Strauss can no longer battle it out like in Adenauer's days, notwithstanding his ambition to take the helm in Bonn.

His criticism of the Government has to be statesmanlike and he must stress the unity of purpose in Germany's foreign policy to give the German voice in the world the necessary weight.

So the Opposition's assessment of the Franco-German summit (which was a bit more spectacular than usual this time) was essentially moderately critical.

All that the Opposition found amiss was that there was not enough emphasis on solidarity with President Carter.

Strauss' "small summit" in Paris was logical and consistent. He went to the French capital to probe not only the surface but the depths of French foreign policy.

It is no secret that France would like to mediate between the superpowers should a mediator be needed. This is a task Bonn cannot shoulder if it is not to wind up in a political no-man's-land.

Herr Strauss was interested in information rather than sensations. He clearly expressed this after his talks with France's Prime Minister Raymond Barre.

He said he had kept his ears open and had met with open ears.

Evidently, Paris did not torpedo the envisaged Western foreign ministers' conference out of injured vanity but because President Giscard d'Estaing wanted a free hand for a possible mediator role.

Presumably, General de Gaulle would have acted the same way.

The French, still masters of diplomacy, have cleverly depicted Herr Strauss' trip to Paris as perfectly normal routine of Franco-German cooperation and as courtesy towards a potential chancellor.

Considering the dangers of the present crisis, such a policy of open ears can only be useful to both sides.

Fritz Lucke

(Nordwest Zeitung, 13 February 1980)

Continued from page 1

part cancellation and the presumed confusion in US responses made his policy increasingly unpredictable for his allies.

It is a principle in East-West ties that the West at least has endeavoured to uphold that one's own policy must be clear and calculable as far as the other side is concerned.

The aim is to forestall mistaken responses. Surely the principle should apply even more forcefully within an alliance.

It would be an exaggeration to talk in terms of a serious crisis in Nato, and it would be equally wrong to decide, as a result, to set up yet another consultative body.

Existing Nato facilities are more than adequate. All that is needed is for them to be used.

Two points urgently need attention. First, the Europeans must start thinking about how they can relieve the military burden on the United States, which has commitments elsewhere than in Europe.

There must be no question of extending Nato's terms of reference, but European countries may well have to take on additional burdens and tasks.

Defence spending in the Federal Republic may, for instance, have to go up by 3 per cent.

Second, Washington would do well to recall that prior notification makes solidarity easier.

Overhasty military commitments such as the proposal to set up a 110,000-man "fire brigade" have not served to heighten US credibility.

Ulrich Mackensen

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 18 February 1980)

Brandt hands over 'survival report'

Willy Brandt has presented UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim with an extensive report of the North-South Commission, dramatically entitled "A Programme for Survival."

For a long time to come, the report will be a major factor in development policy discussions.

What matters is not so much the detailed proposals and their prospects of being realised. It is neither here nor there, for instance, whether a special tax on arms production and trade will be levied or not.

What matters is that the world public will pay more attention to the amount

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

of military hardware that goes to the Third World. It will draw its comparisons and that in itself will be progress.

The most important thing is that the Brandt report will lend new impetus to development policy at a time when it is particularly urgent.

The objective of the first two development decades, to narrow the gap between rich and poor countries, has not been achieved. This has been brought home particularly poignantly as we enter the third decade.

On the other hand, the invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union has clearly shown how necessary it is to promote the stability and independence of Third World nations.

The funds the haves will have to raise are no alms. They are a contribution to peace.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 13 February 1980)

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

Parties unveil pension reform proposals

The various party proposals for the 1984 social security pensions reforms have been put forward at last.

Despite electioneering and mutual accusations, the basic models are as like as peas in a pod.

Yet the grand coalition of SPD and CDU social policy makers is more agreed than the governing coalition between SPD and FDP.

Pensioners, present and future, now have a pretty good idea what will be facing them.

The generation of pensioners still living must come to terms with the fact that adjustment based on gross wages alone will be abolished.

In 1982, for the first time, there will be an increase of pensions by the same percentage as the nominal wages of the active labour force in 1981.

At some point after 1984, the parties are agreed, this system is to come to an end.

There can be no fundamental objection to this. For one thing, the long-term financing of pensions is at stake and, for another, increases based on gross wages and disregarding tax increases and added social contributions would mean that pensions would outstrip the wages of the working population.

But pensioners depending only on social security still have to catch up with retired civil servants, public sector workers and those who enjoy company pensions in addition to social security.

It would have been easiest to level off the difference by taxing pensions. But the parties lack the political courage for such a step. They would have rubbed those with high pensions the wrong way without earning kudos from those drawing little.

The departure from the "gross principle" has been given different names by the various parties. The FDP wants to use the average tax and social security burden of the working population as a reference, thus coming close to the so-called "net principle" whereby pensions are to increase only in proportion to the take-home pay.

But such an attitude is asocial. It would mean that high pensions would rise faster than low ones.

About one-quarter of all pensioners' households have to manage on less than DM1,000 a month anyway; and for widows this applies to more than 40 per cent.

As a result, the SPD and CDU idea of pensioners having to pay towards their health insurance is more equitable. These insurance contributions can be waived for the low pensions and can be increased in line with what the working population has to pay if the pensions are high enough to warrant this.

The SPD is a loner with its demand for a general introduction of "a pension based on minimum incomes."

This comes pretty close to the old demand for a basic pension for all.

Those who have paid into the social security system for 25 years should be deemed to have earned 75 per cent of the social security average income and paid contributions accordingly from the very beginning.

Former mini earners — farmworkers or domestics — should not be punished in old age for having been underpaid during their working lives.

This concept has a major drawback: it would cost a lost of money — more than the social security system or the budget can provide.

As a result, the SPD has been pretty united in demanding that the employers' share be rated according to sales and capital and not according to wages.

The basic idea is sound: it would be unjust if labour-intensive companies were to bear the lion's share of social security while capital-intensive firms, such as the chemicals industry, would pay less.

The SPD's ulterior motive is, of course, to draw more money into the coffers of the social security system. The problem, however, lies in the departure from the clear and uniform criterion of wages

Keeping pace with inflation

Average increase in pensions

Average increase in after-tax wages

1965-1970: +38% / +46%

1970-1975: +52% / +60%

1975-1980*: +31% / +40%

*1980 estimate

which applies equally to employer and employed.

Regarding the actual reason for the reform, i.e. the Constitutional Court ruling that man and woman must enjoy equal status, the parties have similar ideas.

They all operate on the assumption that the pension claims of a couple acquired in the course of their working lives are their common property. Should one of the two die, the surviving spouse is to draw 70 per cent of the joint pension claim.

As opposed to the principle of common title, the parties want to at least guarantee the surviving spouse its own pension claim.

This is more than just a blemish because, for a long tie to come, it favours men who as a rule have earned more and hence have higher pension claims.

At the same time, such a gurantee narrows the financial scope for the recognition of child-rearing times in calculating women's pensions.

The SPD wants to credit women with one year of contributions per child — too little compared with the credit given to military service or school attendance.

The CDU is more generous in taking children into account — but then, that party bears no government responsibility.

Wolfgang Mauersberg

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 13 February 1980)

One aspect 'is disregarded'

The pensions programme which the Wehner Commission has presented for the SPD leadership to consider is not perfect.

Neither are the proposals from other parties and associations.

The whole pensions issue is a tricky one, particularly from the financing angle.

A result, it is hard to describe certain aims with formulas that are both correct and concise.

The Wehner Commission tried exactly that and it deserves to be commended for effort.

But it is disappointing that one of the crucial aspects of this third pensions reform since war's end has been disregarded: the coordination of social security pensions with those for civil servants.

Originally it was said that the two types of pensions would be harmonised — and it was not only the SPD who

Hannoversche Allgemeine

said so — but no serious proposals have been presented, although the problems are grave.

The programme describes in great detail how widows' and widowers' pensions can be reformed, but none of the papers says anything about what to do when a social security pension and the more favourable pension of a civil servant (or an MP) coincide.

The reformers of all political hues have shirked this simple question as if the civil service was to be quietly uncoupled from the social security system for the rest of the people — notwithstanding all avowals to harmonise the two.

Our reformers are obviously still anaware that this makes them less than credible.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 February 1980)

Metalworkers' compromise likely to set trend

The compromise in the latest round of collective bargaining between the metalworkers union and employers is likely to be the model for other claims.

A 6.8 per cent deal together with a training bonus will be adopted by other areas of the metal industry.

The same is true of the "social component" of the one-shot fixed amount to be paid to the lower-income brackets.

This model is now likely to be used by the forthcoming bargaining in the steel sector, the public service sector, the construction industry, chemicals and the private service industry.

The employers of metalworkers have made considerably more concessions than they intended. The union (IG Metall) has grabbed what it could, wasting no time with the originally intended restructuring of wages in favour of low earners.

The employers seem to have assumed that individual companies would not have resisted additional demands by their staff for the sake of loyalty to their association.

For the workers, it was a foregone conclusion that they would get the 7 per cent mentioned by the economic Affairs Minister.

IG Metall was under a very special type of pressure. Its efforts in the past few years to close the gap between the high wages of skilled labour and the low ones of skiled workers (primarily women) were abolished in favour of the one-time additional pay for the latter.

According to the employers, they will make no such payments in the future.

The reference wage (for simple skilled work) says little about the actual change in incomes due to wage increases by percentage points.

Only one-sixth of the workers draw the "reference wage" while 40 per cent earn up to one-third more.

Conversely, 60 per cent of the women workers fall in the two lower wage categories.

IG Metall will now have to continue dealing with the structural problem and present it a new in consecutive rounds of collective bargaining.

Unless the unions soon start doing something about these low income groups they are likely to be faced with tensions in individual companies and in their own ranks.

Generally, the latest wage deal can serve as a pretext for further price increases.

If the unions had agreed on a lesser increase in terms of percentage points and had instead pressed for structural improvements for the low earners, industry would have found it more difficult to raise its prices.

Gertraut Witt

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 February 1980)

Wage talks

Metalworkers' union

Employers

'You do the talking. Tell them we just can't make ends meet.'

(Karl-Heinz Schoenfeld / Hamburger Abendblatt)

■ THE LAW

Former Gestapo deputy chief in France gaoled for 10 years

A Cologne court has sentenced the former deputy Gestapo chief in France, Kurt Lischka, 70, to 10 years imprisonment for complicity in the deportation of Jews from France to the Majdanek concentration camp. His co-defendants Herbert Hagen, 66, and Ernst Heinrichsohn, received 12 and six years respectively on similar charges.



End of the road: defendants Lischke (at rear), Hagen and Heinrichsohn (left, with spectacles) seated in court. (Photo: dpa)

Judge Heinz Fassbender had shown no signs of emotion during 29 trial days — not even when the letter of a child deported to Auschwitz was read and many in the court started to weep.

But when passing sentence he said: "And now, I would like to get personal."

Despite the 400 spectators that crowded the courtroom, the silence was so intense that one could have heard a pin drop.

Judge Fassbender spoke of the "upright appearance" of the three accused which had troubled him because they looked like all the many honourable citizens "with whom we deal in our everyday lives.

"What is so frightening is that they differ not an iota from our parents and relatives.

"As a result, I could look with detachment on any sex fiend, but not on these people."

The men in the dock were educated people who should have known what they were doing.

The court saw in Hagen the main *culprit because he had early in life embraced the Third Reich's hatred of Jews* and had lectured to that effect before the highest government authorities, including the notorious "People's Court".

Judge Fassbender told Hagen: "Maybe you have Heinrichsohn on your conscience because that man, a subordinate, was influenced by your philosophy."

For Lischka, too, the judge found no mitigating circumstances in view of the *fact that the accused was a jurist*, and, during a short period, even a judge.

He should therefore have realised the level of his actions against the Jews.

And Judge Fassbender said: "What our fellow judges did during the Third Reich is a blot on the profession."

Even from a politician like Heinrichsohn, the court expected more than the constant half truths it was given.

"There was no getting away from the fact — and I was constantly conscious of it — that Heinrichsohn was a politician.

"Bearing this in mind, the court constantly built bridges for him and beseeched him to make an honourable confession. But to the very last day the accused denied having known about the purpose and destination of the deportations.

"And yet, like his two co-defendants, he seriously considered the possibility of the deportees being killed."

All three, the judge said, could easily see through the pretext that the deportees were to be taken to labour camps.

But Judge Fassbender did not sit in judgment only over the three accused. Heinrichsohn's attorney Richard Huth and Hagen's defence counsellor Dieter Clemens were also given a piece of his mind.

It must have been balm to the ears of former Jewish deportees among the audience.

In a calm voice, Judge Fassbender censured Attorney Clemens for saying that the Jews had brought their perse[cu]tion by the Nazis upon themselves.

Clemens had tried to prove that was the world Jewry that had declared holy war on Germany in 1933."

A horrified court then heard Clem[ens] conclude that "the Jew was regarded an enemy in war."

Indignantly, Judge Fassbender [retort]ed: "We hope that this passage does stem from Herr Hagen's doctoral [thesis], though it very well could."

Ernst Heinrichsohn's counsel, Richard Huth, was also put in his p[lace] when he said that plaintiff Serge Klars[feld], originally from Rumania, was [not] entitled to speak on behalf of [the] French Jews.

Herr Klarsfeld left the courtroom saying: "Nobody can force me to [listen] to this."

Judge Fassbender termed this statement "regrettable and inappropriate."

Turning to the counsellors for the defence, he said: "Isn't there once again an undertone of despisement for people from the Balkans? Have we not yet left this behind?"

In his closing statement, Judge Fassbender stressed that the terrible events that had been dealt with in his court were not yet a matter of the past.

"If such a trial is necessary at all then it is necessary to enlighten the public and ensure that the events of the past don't happen again — neither here nor elsewhere, neither against Jews nor against Arabs or any other peoples."

Judge Fassbender's remarks were necessary because it took until 1979 before this trial could begin.

Angrily, the judge mentioned the ratification of the Franco-German Supplementary Agreement that had made it possible to try the three men - they had been sentenced in absentia in France — in a German court.

Ingrid Müller

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 13 February 1980)

Lischka trial closes a chapter

The Lischka trial was one of the shortest proceedings against Nazi war criminals. The sentences, ranging between six and 12 years, have closed a chapter that long troubled Franco-German relations.

That it took so long to atone for the deportation of some 50,000 French Jews by the former head of the German security police in Paris, Kurt Lischka, and his helpers Herbert Hagen and Ernst Heinrichsohn was due to the complicated legal position.

Only after the long protracted signing of the Supplementary Agreement with France, without which Lischka, who had already been sentenced in France, could not have been prosecuted in Germany, did it become possible for the Cologne Justice Department to take action.

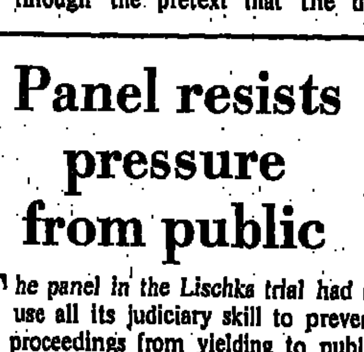
Serge Klarsfeld and his wife were instrumental in making this trial possible. Without their extensive documentation the proceedings would probably have extended over many years, like most Nazi trials.

The demonstrations accompanying this court case showed how strong the emotions still are among French Jews, many of whom lost relatives in German concentration camps.

It was largely due to the excellent handling of the case by Judge Heinz Fassbender that nobody will be able to say that the just sentences were passed under "pressure from the mob."

Bettina Wieselmann

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 12 February 1980)



Panel resists pressure from public

The panel in the Lischka trial had to use all its judiciary skill to prevent the proceedings from yielding to public pressure.

It had to weigh the charges in the unbiased manner befitting a free and democratic country.

The balanced sentences resting on indisputable evidence seem to indicate that the court did a fine job.

But now there is danger from another quarter looming.

An unfortunate idea of some of the media to send reporters to Bürgstadt, the village where Ernst Heinrichsohn had been mayor until his sentencing, has once more overshadowed the fair trial with emotions and hysteria.

The people of Bürgstadt who were accosted by reporters had known their mayor for years — not as an accessory to murder but as a decent fellow citizen. They only had secondhand knowledge about the trial, through the media.

It would be folly to think that they could change their opinion of a man from one moment to the next; it would be equally foolish to assume that all Bürgstadters, Lower Fanconians or Germans in general were incorrigible Nazis (an impression that could easily prevail abroad).

And yet, this is a possibility.

(Die Welt, 13 February 1980)

French react to outcome 'with satisfaction'

The outcome of the Lischka trial has met with a positive response in France. Most of the Press stresses that the presiding judge was objective and unemotional in his conduct of the proceedings.

It also emphasises that the sentence is tantamount to a life term for Lischka, who is 70.

Le Matin, which sympathises with the socialists, expressed satisfaction with the manner in which the trial was handled and the hope that the Germany of today would be mature enough to sentence Nazi criminals in what the paper termed a "level-headed manner."

The president of the International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism, Jean-Pierre Bloch, held that the sentencing of the three accused was a victory for the Federal Republic of Germany and that it would contribute still further to reconciliation between the two countries.

It would be desirable, said Bloch, if the Frenchmen who had actively participated in the mass arrest of French Jews were no longer permitted to enjoy their freedom.

Agency reports say that the Israeli public has generally responded positively to the Cologne sentences.

A government spokesman in Jerusalem said: "The sentencing of Lischka has broken the long and unpardonable neglect and delay in Nazi trials in Germany."

The newspaper *Maariv* said in an editorial that the prison sentences of the Cologne court did not fit the crime and that the court appears to have taken the age of the accused into account.

The Central Council of Jews in Germany has said that the court has set new yardsticks and that it was judicially, intellectually and morally an example of "coping with the darkest chapter of German and European history."

Hans Rademacher

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 13 February 1980)

■ DEFENCE

No punches pulled at security talks

Europe is doing too little for the defence of the Western Alliance. And the United States is not consulting its allies enough.

These accusations set the mood of the 17th International Strategic Studies Conference in Munich.

For many years those conferences have been an important forum for security policy, and they have always been marked by frankness.

Almost every US politician at the conference accused Europe and the Federal Republic of Germany of doing too little.

And doubts about Germany's solidarity were as much in evidence as strengthened US self confidence.

The charge of lack of consultation by the US, though differing in degree, was voiced by Defence Minister Hans Apel, his Parliamentary State Secretary Andreas von Bülow, and the national security spokesman of the CDU/CSU, Manfred Wörner.

Has the link between the United States and its allies become brittle? Is the Alliance faced with a crisis of confidence or is the whole thing just a skirmish, with the US presidential elections and the parliamentary polling in Germany as a backdrop?

Misunderstandings and developments, be they real or imaginary, become clearer at these conferences. They are less couched in diplomatic niceties than normally in diplomatic contacts.

The Strategic Studies Conference is a barometer of the existing security climate.

The climate is not so good right now, of course.

The 30 US delegates were almost unanimous in their demands. They wanted more cooperation and more money doled out.

US Deputy Defence Secretary Robert Komer presented four demands which he expected the United States and Europe to meet: a common political will and economic sacrifices "which are not yet in evidence"; a strong leadership as provided by Washington "but which has so far met with doubts in Europe"; a rational distribution of burdens, "which does not mean that the United States wants to do less but that a recovered Western Europe and Japan should do more for the common defence"; much more cooperation to ensure a credible defence and deterrent in the 80s.

Mr Komer added: "Let me say as an American — and perhaps I am a bit narrow-minded — that I have more faith in America's reaction to these four security factors than in that of our allies — at least for the present."

While the Americans conveyed the impression that they wanted countermeasures at any cost — an attitude seconded by many speakers in the debate — there evolved something like a Franco-German axis in an effort to prevent any hasty action.

But, naturally, Hans Apel stressed that Bonn would not undermine any US measures.

He said: "We know that there can be no security without the United States, no peace and no treaties. But on one point we, too, hold that we should cooperate still more closely. What we need is solidarity and the planning of a long-term strategy rather than short-lived decisions. This means informing each other, debating, having a common will, acting in concert and distributing tasks."

Professor Jacques Vernant from Paris, backed Herr Apel: "Pessimism and defeatism have unfortunately become fashionable," he said, clearly directing his words at Washington.

Even so, the international balance has changed in the West's favour through closer links between the United States *and China and China and Japan.*

The Federal Republic of Germany is prepared to go along with the division of labour concept and take on additional obligations should the United States become involved in the Persian Gulf.

General Gert Schmückle, deputy Nato commander-in-chief for Europe, described how such a division of labour should not look, saying: "There must be no three-class division of labour in which the first class is in charge of defence, the second of detente and defence and *the third only of detente.*"

Former US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was somewhat more restrained than other US politicians who, like Congressman Robin Beard, argued that the position of Nato has deteriorated drastically in the past 10 years.

Said Rumsfeld: "It is important for the West to ensure that there is a counterweight to the expansionism of the Soviet Union."

Otherwise, he went on, Saudi Arabia, Yugoslavia or Pakistan could well become the next victims.

Senator John Tower elaborated: "The limits of Nato must be extended, and this should be the subject of consideration and political discussion."

Countered Defence Minister Apel: "No extension of the Nato territory, but division of labour to release forces."

Parliamentary State Secretary of the Defence Ministry, Andreas von Bülow, who had listened carefully as the Americans explained their plans for the establishment of a 110,000-man Rapid Deployment Force, caused some consternation among US politicians with his remarks.

The United States, he said, should work more towards making their policy consistent and predictable to avoid overreacting due to having reacted too late.

Ulrich Mackensen

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 February 1980)

Army demands 'are old chestnuts'

The Bonn Defence Ministry sees no reason to increase the scheduled strength of the Bundeswehr.

The announcement follows a demand by the Bundeswehr Association (DBWV) to ensure a minimum strength of at least 495,000.

In view of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, DBWV Chairman Wolland presented an extensive range of measures for the improvement of our defence system and called for increased alertness.

Among his proposals is an extension of national service and the drafting into the Bundeswehr of foreigners from Nato countries permanently living in Germany.

Herr Wolland told journalists in Bonn that his 250,000-member association demands not only the development of new weapons and early warning systems but also the accelerated realisation of Nato's decision to station medium-range nuclear warheads in Europe.

He also called for voluntary service in the armed forces by women and a review of the regulations governing exemption from national service.

Moreover, the DBWV calls for an increase of the defence budget by 3 per cent in real terms.

The Defence Ministry spokesman called the DBWV resolution a "conglomeration of old chestnuts and generalities."

He said there was no reason to change the status and numerical strength of the Bundeswehr.

ddp/dpa

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 5 February 1980)

Bonn, Paris sign tank deal

Even members of the Bonn Defence Ministry staff were somewhat surprised when they learnt this month that Defence Minister Hans Apel had signed an agreement with France to develop a tank.

The project has been in the pipeline since 1980.

The first attempt to enter a joint venture ended in October 1963 with a comparative test of the prototypes developed by the two countries.

The decision of the two countries to go their separate ways made in October 1963 had nothing to do with the performance of the vehicles, although experts claimed that the French model was "mediocre."

But exports played an important role in the case of the German Leopard I and the French AMX-30.

Bonn was and still is against the export of military hardware to conflict areas. But the French have no such scruples.

In the Middle East they supply, among others, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Iraq.

The AMX-30 and other vehicles based on that design became a best seller of France's export-oriented armament industry as was Germany's Leopard I for this country.

The Bundeswehr bought close to 2,500 units, and another 2,000 went to such Nato countries as Holland, Norway and Belgium and to friendly nations like Australia.

France's army now has about 1,000 AMX-30s.

The 3,500 tanks that will have to be *replaced shortly make such a joint* project sensible for the government and lucrative for industry.

It was the export issue that made experts sceptical when industrial circles said that the two governments had decided jointly to develop the assault tank of the 90s.

Germany's major armoured vehicle manufacturers, Krauss-Maffei of Munich and MaK of Kiel, who are building 55 and 45 per cent respectively of the Leopard IIs ordered by the Bundeswehr, have agreed to form a parent company for the manufacture of the new tank.

The company will be known as MaK Krauss Maffei Sondertechnik.

It will be Hamburg-based and its partner will be the state-owned French GIAT Company.

A coordination group of the Defence Ministries will also have its seat in Hamburg.

The group will act as the executive body of a Paris-based steering committee for the project which will benefit from the experience with Leopard II.

The tank is to roll off French and German assembly lines by the mid-90s at the latest.

Irksome export problems have been solved as follows: both may be sold world-wide, except to the Warsaw Pact countries.

But the partners must keep each other informed about export prospects and intentions.

If one party considers its interests harmed (as in the case of exports to conflict areas) the defence ministers are to discuss the matter. If they cannot reach agreement, the final decision is to rest with the Chancellor and the President.

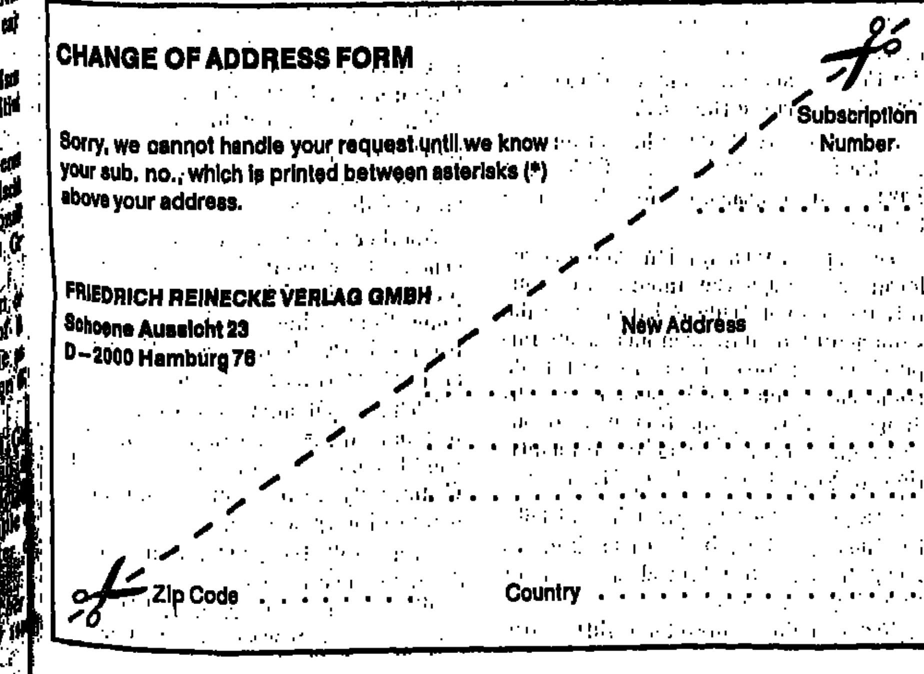
Despite verbal standardisation assurances, the British and the Americans are unlikely to participate in the project.

The United States pins its hopes on its XM-1 which is said to have outperformed the Leopard II only because the Americans doctored the results.

The ailing Chrysler concern is to supply 4,000 XM-1s by 1985 — a welcome shot in the arm worth 1.2 billion dollars.

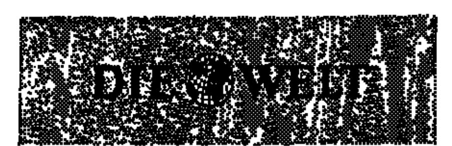
Alexander Szandar

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 9 February 1980)



■ THE THIRD WORLD

New Delhi conference leaves doubts about bases of co-operation



Even the most astute negotiating techniques could not have bridged the gap between North and South during the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation conference in New Delhi.

The obvious question now is: do the developing and industrial countries still speak the same language?

An Indian delegate termed the demands of the Third World countries "moderate". Who knows? He might not even have intended to be cynical.

The fact is that the Group of 77 (the developing countries) went beyond all its former demands in New Delhi.

Even the most benign of observers could only shake their heads in amazement at the tone and substance of the Third World demands.

Months spent in preparation

The Unido Secretariat spent months preparing the conference, and all groups of countries participated in this preparatory work.

It could thus have been reasonably assumed that there was a solid basis on which to talk in New Delhi. Moreover, Unido has always tended to favour the demands of the 77.

But then, just before Christmas, Third *World ministers met in Havana to add up their extreme demands which they* then presented at New Delhi.

It was a gross negotiating mistake on the part of the West to have put up with this.

To make matters worse, the main demands of the Third World were such as to provide no basis for talks at all. Even the most astute negotiating technique could not have bridged the North-South gap.

As in the case of Third World demands on raw materials policy, the industrialisation of the developing nations is also seen by them as a self-service store in the form of a fund.

The industrialised and the oil-producing states are in their view to pump *hundreds of billions of dollars* into the fund from which the developing countries would help themselves as they see fit.

In other words, they alone would decide what to do with the money.

At least, they felt, they could rid themselves of such uncomfortable control institutions as the World Bank and the Bank for Reconstruction.

They justified all this with a blue-eyed appeal for international solidarity, though everybody at the conference knew only too well that the true problem of the Third World is lack of national solidarity, i. e. the conflict between rich and poor within their own national frontiers. This was made amply clear in New Delhi itself.

Once these billions become available, the Third World countries intend to tell the developed North which areas of industry it should shut down and instead, be transferred to the developing nations.

Are the Third World countries — especially those which have already covered some of the road to industrialisation — blind to the fact that they only harm their own cause?

Do they truly expect to be taken seriously with such demands?

Be this as it may, the *cordon sanitaire* that usually surrounds the Third World at such conferences fulfilled its function although such agitators as Cuba were the dominant voice.

One explanation is that many of the developing countries felt that the West was weakened by the international situation and that their own position was therefore strengthened.

The spontaneous measures to help Turkey and Pakistan have evidently acted as blinkers for the realities of world politics, more or less along the lines: lucky he who can say that he is threatened by Russia.

Of course, even high-ranking Western delegates propunded the thesis in New Delhi that the international political situation precludes any confrontation with the Third World.

Anyone operating with such a low profile risks not only being overlooked altogether but he actually provokes the Third World into such embarassing and futile exhibitions.

The question is: can there ever be an international political situation that would make a confrontation with the Third World acceptable?

With some delegations it was certainly just plain ignorance of economic and political facts that made them blind to the folly of such demands. Others might have acted out of a misplaced bazaar mentality (if you ask a lot you'll get more than you expect).

Those countries which, like Cuba, to the Moscow line, were clearly trying to divert attention from Moscow's involvement in Afghanistan.

Moreover, presenting an asinine request obviates the unpleasant necessity of presenting a constructive one.

Any economist, be it in the Third World or elsewhere, knows very well that it is impossible to redistribute whole industries, and if it were done it would only spread poverty world-wide.

But it is very difficult frankly to state what really matters: to encourage the West to invest, to guarantee protection from dispossession, to acquire Western know-how and so gradually develop its industry.

But there are no laurels to be earned with such proposals at UN conferences.

What has to be made clear to the South as the consequence arising from Afghanistan is that the aggressor has become visible to all, that there is less room than ever for a see-saw policy and finally, that the risks have increased for the Third World as well.

Seen in this light, the West is not negotiating from a position of weakness in the North-South dialogue.

The Pakistani delegate who termed the "New Delhi Declaration" resulting from talks with the East and directed against the West a "milestone" was right in a way: a milestone that hangs around the neck of the North-South dialogue like a millstone.

Heinz Heck

(Die Welt, 12 February 1980)

Special EEC link with Yugoslavia almost signed and sealed

Negotiations about the new and novel cooperation agreement between the EEC and Yugoslavia have, to all intents and purposes, been successfully completed.

After a last round of talks the two sides issued a joint declaration outlining their mutual positions and stating that the conclusion of the agreement is likely in the next few weeks.

Wilhelm Haferkamp, vice-president of the EEC Commission, has informed the Council of Foreign Ministers of the results.

Now it remains to be seen whether Italian Foreign Minister Ruffini will stick to his intention to discuss all remaining details during a Belgrade visit. Ruffini is the current president of the EEC Council of Ministers.

Yugoslavia's minister for relations with the EEC and Efta, Stojan Andoy, has asked for more time to consult with his government on mutual concessions.

This is not, as has been maintained, a pure formality due to the suddenness of the breakthrough in the talks under the impact of the Afghanistan crisis.

Andov's full title is "Member of the Federal Executive Council". As such, he must consult with the other members of the Council and this is more difficult in Yugoslavia than in the EEC.

Since the 1978 decentralisation the republics of the Yugoslav Federation have been responsible for the trade balances.

They spend their foreign exchange allocations through the Interest Community for Foreign Trade Relations, and the Community in turn coordinates all imports and exports of the foreign trade companies and local authorities. In doing so, this organisation has to observe the guidelines and recommendations of Yugoslavia's federal authorities.

The more the talks went into details, the more the EEC had to take into account the sensitive federal structure of Yugoslavia.

This explains many of the difficulties and the need for the extra time for consultations asked for by Mr Andov before the agreement can be initialled. Brussels had hoped that this could be done early in February.

This gingerly way of proceeding towards the completion of the agreement underscores the importance it has for both parties.

Yugoslavia has, with good reasons, demanded that the new agreement take into account its position as a non-aligned Mediterranean and developing country.

The EEC trade preferences and concessions granted to Yugoslavia are relatively far-reaching without actually *establishing a free-trade zone.*

So far, Yugoslavia's trade with the EEC has shown a similar deficit as the Community's trade with Japan.

The EEC will try to strengthen Yugoslavia's export potential and to facilitate imports from that country through an "evolution clause."

Another clause of the agreement is generously conceived and intended to promote industrialisation while at the same time being politically innocuous because it was drafted along the lines of an EEC agreement with Algeria.

There is yet another reason why the new agreement is so important: Greece will become a full member of the Community next January and thus a party to the agreement.

As a result, the EEC will have a border with Yugoslavia.

Karl A. Ehrhardt

(Handelsblatt, 5 February 1980)

Meeting had 'a certain honesty'

All that can be said for the end of the Unido Conference in New Delhi is that it was marked by a certain honesty.

The conflict between North and South is growing and any closing communiqué speaking of compromises would have eliminated this conflict on paper only.

The Group of 77 was not prepared to do this nor was the North willing to go along with excessive material demands.

But the 300 billion dollar fund demanded by the Third World was only superficially the crux of the matter.

One of the development policy aims was to make the developing countries account for one-fifth or one-quarter of global industrial production by the end of the century without the industrialised *nations (which now account for 90 per* cent of world production) having to cut back.

But this objective cannot be achieved — among other things because it would lead to the collapse of the world market; and the industrialised countries will never permit this to happen.

So the material gap between North and South remains. But a partnership-based development policy should narrow this gap, not to mention the fact that the more important revolution of consciousness has not yet begun.

What is called for is human abilities other than the ability to produce. And what matters is to create conditions in which each will be able freely to develop his talents.

But international conferences — and not only Unido in New Delhi — always shirk this issue.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 February 1980)

■ ENERGY

Manufacturers caught short as coal stoves regain popularity

Coal stoves are coming back into favour. And they are coming back so fast that manufacturers are being caught on the hop.

Sales dropped from 1.5m in 1957 to fewer than 60,000 in 1978.

But last year 90,000 were sold.

Customers are having to wait for three months for normal cast-iron stoves, according to one manufacturer, Buderus.

The waiting time for a tiled stove is two years, according a spokesman for the company, Gerhard Klostermann.

There are now fewer than 10 suppliers left, and they cannot immediately get their factories back into production.

Energy saving, with the accent on coal, was the theme at this year's *Domotechnica* household appliance show in Cologne.

Here, the odd man out is the chief executive of Ruhrkohle AG, Dr Karlheinz Bund, who said: "Coal can no longer compete with other sources of energy when it comes to heating homes, even though it is cheaper than oil.

"We can hardly expect the consumer to cart coal from the basement to his apartment and then do the reverse trip with the ash."

Other Ruhrkohle people disagree with their boss, and the company is at the show, where it bills coal as "The heat you can afford."

Among the customers are not only people living in older buildings but also those who prefer to carry coal when the weather is such that you only need to take the chill off the air. At such times they are prepared to switch off central heating. But this presupposes a chimney, which few new buildings have. According to the industry's estimates, some three million of the 20 million German households still have the good old coal-operated cooking range. Today, such ranges sell for an average of DM1,000. This year's *Domotechnica*, however, tried to make it amply clear that these primitive ranges belong to another era. If the exhibitors are to be *believed, the age of* the computer in the home — and particularly in the kitchen — has dawned. While last year's exhibitors showed only prototypes of the new generation of appliances, today they can be bought.

Coal stoves not so old-fashioned after all.

(Photo: F. W. Holubosvki)

A housewife with such a marvel of technology — or so the advertisements would have us believe — only needs to programme the amount of meat in the casserole and the desired dinner time.

The computer takes care of the rest. It switches on the stove and the extractor ... and presto: dinner is served.

Washing machines and dishwashers have also been computerised. They no longer heat the water they need but take it in exact dosages from the hot water main.

Moreover, the machines can be programmed to start their work at night when everybody is asleep and electricity can be had at off-peak rates.

Microprocessors also make for added safety by automatically switching off when the housewife has made a mistake, leaving the water tap closed or not closing the machine door or if there is an electricity breakdown.

One leading manufacturer of dishwashers with a line called "Lady", offers a machine where you dial the degree of dirtiness and the quantity of dishes. The computer takes care of everything else by adding the exact quantity of detergent.

When asked about the price of these miracles of technology, the manufacturers are somewhat coy. But they admit that the computerised variety of their machines costs an additional DM500 to DM800.

A computerised washing machine by Siemens has a DM2,200 price tag compared with DM1,700 for their automatic model without the electronic brain.

"But this does not mean that the *computer variety is DM400 to DM500* more expensive," says Siemens spokesman Dr Kurt Wicht. He points out that the new generation of appliances has a longer lifetime, is more economical in its use of detergents and helps save energy.

30 per cent saving in electricity

The new type of washing machine *uses 30 to 40 per cent less electricity* than its conventional counterpart.

Energy saving was the dominant sales pitch at this year's show.

One manufacturer of electric kitchen stoves also provides the correct pots and pans. His spiel is to tell potential customers how much electricity they use to preheat their baking ovens — something they do not have to do with his model.

"Energy saving" over and over again ad infinitum until it becomes a bore. I, for one, cannot hear the words anymore.

Admits one salesman: "We are going a bit overboard with it and the customer is overtaxed. Just take the much advertised economy button on washing machines.

"Whether you have it or not, if you run your machine half full you're bound to use more energy than when you fill it properly. But no-one tells the consumer."

The onus is on our industry to enlighten the consumer as it promised Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff along with an undertaking to develop economical appliances.

Starting from this autumn, industry will broadcast energy saving advice during prime television time.

Of the more than 100 envisaged broadcasts, 20 will deal with the correct use of household appliances.

The initiative for this originated with industry which will also bear the cost, though no arrangement has as yet been made as to how this is to be divided up equitably.

Hans-Willy Bein

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 8 February 1980)

Only a matter of time before something finally gave

It was only a question of time before somebody in Bonn blew his top over the constant petrol price forecasts by all sorts of people, some competent, some not so.

It has happened now with Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff. Every line of his telex to the chief executive of German BP bristles with rage.

Understandably so in view of the fact that such announcements thwart all the minister's plans.

The Bonn Government is walking a tightrope anyway, trying to curb inflation while, on the other hand, realising that high prices are an incentive to save energy.

But the minister also had another important function of prices in mind — i.e. competition. And this became obvious in his telex.

What still remains of competition in the oil business will fall away if BP's announcement that it would raise petrol prices by 3 pfennigs a litre makes the other oil companies do the same, although the price increase might be justified in the case of BP but not in that of the others.

It is unavoidable in the long run for rising crude prices to lead to price increases for oil-based products. But this does not preclude temporary price reductions — especially for heating oil — due to an oversupply in Rotterdam.

The consumer should at least be given the benefit of such a breathing space in the otherwise breathtaking price increases on the oil market.

What angered Count Lambsdorff was that the German BP was obviously not prepared to let the public benefit from this breathing space.

Gerhard Weck

(Bremer Nachrichten, 8 February 1980)

Economical household system slow to be taken up

Everybody talks about saving energy but only too frequently it remains just talk.

Home heating is a typical example. Industry has spent millions to develop new heating systems such as the heat exchange pump in conjunction with under floor heating — an extremely economical alternative, which has progressed far beyond the experimental stage.

But what is happening in practice? Almost all new buildings are still built and equipped with oil-fire heating as in the days when heating oil cost ten pfennigs a litre.

The example of one progressive man who contracted to have a house built shows where the problems lie. The company that was to instal the heating system was adamant in insisting on conventional central heating and it took a test of wills for the houseowner to make it yield to his wishes.

Although a layman, the owner had read all the trade magazines and it was he who had to tell the experts what could and should be done.

Once the heating company had read up on the subject, it was so enthusiastic about it that it insisted on installing the new system wherever possible.

The problem thus lies in the gap between the available new heating techniques and the consumer's knowledge about them.

Many heating companies either lack the time or the interest to deal with innovations — to the detriment of the homeowner.

Even if the new heating technology is more expensive than the conventional oil-fired variety, those who do not opt for the new system will miss the boat.

Subsequent conversion is a lot more expensive than installing the new system from scratch — not to mention the inconvenience to the occupants.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 February 1980)

COMMUNICATIONS

Franco-German satellite TV system 'will cut out interference'

Perfect reception for television viewers is the main concrete advantage of the satellite communications system being worked on jointly by France and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The system, known as Symphony, would help viewers who now had reception marred by man-made or natural interference a meeting has been told.

Scientists from 23 countries at the Berlin Congress Hall for the four-day meeting heard that only the first and second French and German TV channels would be beamed, plus 12 radio stations.

The project would not open the way for commercial TV programmes.

France and West Germany have been working together on Symphony for 13 years now. Cooperation between the two countries on the project has been harmonious, according to the administrators, scientists, technicians and industrialists involved.

Journalists at the conference were less interested in past achievements than in the planned Franco-German television and radio satellites by means of which programmes will be beamed to televiewers and radio listeners in both countries direct from space.

The French satellite will have a greater range than the West German one, as it will have to cover a wider area, from the channel coast in the north to Corsica in the south.

West Germany has solved the politically tricky question of its programmes being receivable on GDR TV sets by covering only the areas between the eastern border of West Germany and West Berlin.

There is no doubt that the joint programme is a considerable industrial and technical prestige project, but one journalist asked what benefit the ordinary viewer would derive from the satellites.

He would have to buy a parabola aerial and a frequency changer to receive the programmes, but otherwise the programmes would be the same as those he can see now.

And in all seriousness the Symphony pioneers said that the advantage for everyone was that they would be participating in a technology with a future.

Apart from this, viewers whose picture reception was marred by weather, skyscraper and mountain shadow interference would in future get a perfect reception.

Secretary of State Haunschild of the Bonn Ministry of Research and Technology said that although France and West Germany had been cooperating on the project for 13 years now it was far from being a space anachronism.

Indeed Europe had set new standards with its excellent technology on which many other satellite systems were now based. He said that the European space industry had here tested its international competitiveness and even gained a slight lead.

Professor Hubert Curien, chairman of the administrative council of the French Space Research Centre, CNES, which together with the German Research and Experimental Centre for Space and Aviation (DFVLR) was responsible for the project, said that the project had proved that bilateral cooperation without the United States was also possible.

And he used the punch-line: "The Rhine is not as wide as the Atlantic — but this has yet to be proved."

The technical solutions German and French industry had found for the two Symphony satellites were exemplary and forward-pointing, he said. MBB, Siemens, AEG as well as Aerospatiale, Thompson and SAT had played an outstanding part in the projects.

He singled out the three-axle stabilisation in space, heat regulation in space and technical regulation of geostationary telecommunications as outstanding.

Curien stressed that in the past five years the Symphony satellites, about 36,000 kilometres above the earth, have made great contributions to peace, education and science.

He mentioned some of the most interesting uses to which this experimental satellite could be put: it could serve as a news satellite for the United Nations in times of crisis, for the Red Cross in catastrophes, for educational TV and radio especially in Third World countries.

It could also — and here China, India, Iran, Tunisia and the Ivory Coast are particularly interested — be used for the international interchange of data among scientists. It could also check that atomic clocks throughout the world, are keeping time.

Berlin Science Senator Glotz welcomed the symposium participants in the name of the Mayor of West Berlin, in his speech, stressed the Berlin [illegible] ciations of the Symphony project.

During the last two Berlin Television and Radio Exhibitions, there were [illegible] broadcasts via satellite from Berlin.

On the roof of the Heinrich Hertz Institute there is an aerial by means of which radio contact can be established with the satellites, and the French [illegible] in the city is preparing to [illegible] French television programmes [illegible] the French sector via Symphony.

There was huge international [illegible] in the Symphony project, and [illegible] from China, India, Japan and [illegible] countries were present.

Scientists compared notes and [illegible] ed out that a number of countries [illegible] couraged by the success of Symphony are planning similar projects.

Ralph Marque
(Der Tagesspiegel, 5 February [illegible])

Spacelab contract

The US space agency, NASA, [illegible] commissioned a second spacelab from the European consortium led by the Erno Raumfahrttechnik GmbH [illegible] Bremen.

An Erno spokesman said that [illegible] contract, worth DM301.3m, would [illegible] signed in Paris by NASA and ESA [illegible] European counterpart.

The spacelab, which will be manned by two astronauts, must be delivered [illegible] April 1984 at the latest.

The commission fulfils a NASA commitment made in *1973*, when [illegible] European states agreed to develop [illegible] finance a re-usable spacelab as their [illegible] tribution to the American space [illegible] port system.

In return, NASA contractually committed itself to commission and [illegible] for a second spacelab.

Another contract between ESA [illegible] Erno means that the Bremen company will also take on other tasks in the sphere of manned space travel and spacelab use.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 February 1980)

Now it's colour pictures over the telephone

Lower Saxony is making something of a name for itself in the communications field. *Land* Prime Minister Ernst Albrecht is of course one of the prime movers behind plans to restructure North German Television (NDR).

And the Institute of News Technology in Brunswick has developed a "colour telepicture" technique by which colour photographs can be transmitted via telephones.

The project, led by Professor Helmut Schönfelder, was partly financed by the German Research Association.

In this system, a special telepicture receiver uses the coded signals transmitted over the phone to transform the grey tones on the black and white pictures into colour.

Furthermore it is possible that a black and white television camera equipped with a decoder could decipher the colour code and transform the picture into a colour picture. Of course all these pictures can be reproduced in black and white also.

At Hanover University the Institute of Theoretical News Technology and Information Dissemination headed by Professor Hans Georg Musmann is working on another system of transmission [illegible] telephone — moving colour pictures. This project is also being financed [illegible] the German Research Association.

Here the amount of information [illegible] immense but it can be coped with if, instead of transmitting all focal points separately, only predictions of the probability of a focal point appearing [illegible] transmitted, plus the coordinates of the places where the picture building differs from this prediction.

Only those parts of the picture which have changed will be transmitted, [illegible] the rest of the image will be stored.

Slowly moving objects can [illegible] transmitted by this technique — and [illegible] picture quality is good.

However, this technique could not [illegible] used on presently existing networks. Another 500 channels would be needed. It will, however, be used on a [illegible] work planned for the future on which it will be possible to transmit 64 [illegible] units of information per second.

(Rheinischer Merkur / Christ und Welt, 8 February 1980)

THE MOTOR INDUSTRY

Audi holds its breath over new model

Audi has picked a time of drastic petrol price increases to introduce its 200 model, a large limousine with a 2.2 litre five-cylinder engine.

In fact, even the company's chef executive, Herr Habbel, feels uneasy about presenting the new model at such a time.

But the car has been ready for assembly line production since June 1979, and its presentation in August of that year was postponed at short notice.

The new car was then finally presented without much fanfare at the Frankfurt Automobile Show.

But only now has it become possible to test drive the car, and deliver it to the dealers.

Automobiles ready for assembly line production cannot simply be scrapped. They take years to develop, and in 1977, when the Audi 200's development began, potential customers were still interested in a fast and powerful car.

The Audi 100 was considered too weak by many potential buyes and the company's chief designer, Ferdinand Piech, was sure that his course of action was reasonable: he took the basic body of the 100, equipped it luxuriously and gave it the tried and true five-cyclinder engine.

With its fuel injection system the 200 5e develops 163 hp and a sports version with turbo charger is capable of 170 hp.

This DM30,000 version accelerates to 100 kph in a mere 8.7 seconds and is capable of a 200 kph top speed.

The difference between the 200 5E and the 200 5T (turbo charge) lies not in the equipment but in the gears: the E model has a fifth gear with a high overdrive ratio which contributes to fuel economy.

The T model has a sporty five-gear transmission capable of taking a gradient even in fifth.

Audi has taken great pains with the equipment of its new car which has such items as a central locking device, a driver's seat adjustable for height, electrically operated windows, two seat cushions, power steering and, of course, the five-gear drive.

The car is comfortable and easy to handle.

Even so, there is room for criticism. Like all Audis, a certain fetish has been made of plastics.

According to Piech, the intention is to be clearly distinguishable from Daimler-Benz and BMW so far as the interior is concerned.

But Audi should take into account that this car is intended to appeal to rather conservative buyers with little love for pseudo sporty vehicles.

Still, a few good ideas have been incorporated in the interior such as the clock mounted on the ceiling, a central armrest with provisions for drinking glasses plus an upholstery that permits air to circulate.

Sound insulation is so good as to give the driver the feeling that he is driving a six-cylinder car.

The chassis also deserves praise. Until recently, it was accepted that cars of more than 120 hp were bound to have trouble transmitting their power to the road surface via the front wheels.

This apparently no longer applies, and even the 170 hp of the turbo charged model grips the road splendidly. But particularly dashing drivers must expect heavy wear on their front tyres.

Although the Audi 200 with its 1,260 kilo empty weight is exemplary for lightness, it hugs the road well and is a forgiving car should the driver make a mistake.

The passengers have a feeling of sitting in a large and heavy limousine.

But what are the Audi 200's market chances? Provided the assembly line cars are as good as the first demonstration model, its chances of selling are not bad.

Even if fuel prices should rise still further, there are always enough people who, for business reasons, have to travel with much luggage, and they need a large, comfortable car — at any cost. The Audi 200 could be just right for them.

Compared with the equally powerful but very thirsty Mercedes 250 the Audi has an edge due to its thriftiness.

The MBW 525 is only slightly thirstier, but its equipment and other details seem to indicate that a new model will soon become necessary. The fact is that the Audi 200 is eight years ahead in design.

It can be said now already that the Audi will have a better resale value than comparable models.

With its 14.1 litre per 100 kilometer fuel consumption in city traffic, the Audi cannot be termed a pioneer but it nevertheless ranks among the most economical cars in that category.

Fuel consumption of the Audi 200 could probably be improved marginally by making the ugly headlight recesses more aerodynamic. This would also prevent snow from gathering in them.

In this one respect the Audi 100 is better. The designers were probably determined that the new car should differ in appearance from its cheaper sibling. *But that problem could have been solved more elegantly.*

Audi intends to build 11,000 of its 200 model in 1980, which it hopes to sell to families with a monthly net income in the region of DM4,500. The company is bound to be proved right on that score.

Eberhard Reiniger
(Rheinischer Merkur / Christ und Welt, 8 February 1980)

The Audi 200: is it too big? (Photo: Audi)

Production drop likely

Demand for medium-sized cars is clearly diminishing, and overall automobile production is likely to drop by 10 per cent this year.

Ford and Opel will have to introduce short shifts for some of their work.

Pessimists could view this as a threat to Germany's automobile industry while optimists speak of a mere reverting to normal conditions — whatever that may mean.

The Automobile Industry Association, which usually tries to dampen excessive expectations, now maintains that there is no sign of a crisis.

Though the makers admit that car buyers feel insecure due to the tense international situation and rising fuel prices, they do not expect a major setback — especially because exports are likely to balance diminished demand at home.

And indeed there is no acute crisis where our oil supplies are concerned. But the energy shock is still to come for most German home owners and tenants when they get their heating bills in the spring.

Then, at the latest, they will realise how much energy prices have risen.

Many of those in average income *brackets will have to use their savings* to pay their oil bills instead of making a down payment on a new car.

In this way, the oil price increase could lead to a greater setback for the automobile industry than anticipated.

But the Association is right on one point: as long as filling stations have enough petrol — regardless at what price — Germans will continue to drive, and this is what the automobile industry pins its hopes on.

Peter Roller
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 February 1980)

Latest brake system 'if you can pay'

The vaunted "anti-blocking brake system" (ABS) has problems in getting off the ground. Though technically fully developed and ready for assembly line production, only two German manufacturers are providing it as an extra — and only in their most expensive models.

So, while there is no problem whatsoever selling such expensive extras as air conditioning and electrically operated windows, most drivers must do without such a revolutionary development and major safety factor.

A survey of the German motor industry by the German Automobile Club (ADAC) shows that only BMW and Daimler-Benz offer the new brake system.

Shortly, it is also to be provided as an extra for the Audi 200 (made by a subsidiary of the VW concern). According to a VW spokesman, the concern intends to proceed step by step and be guided by the market situation in providing ABS with other models as well.

Opel and Ford are not offering the system at all. Though both are experimenting with ABS, Opel considers it still too expensive while Ford wants to concentrate on reducing the weight, improving the aerodynamics and developing more efficient engines for its 1980s range.

The ABS has been extensively tested by the ADAC. Two test cars were used, a BMW 728 and a Mercedes 280 SE. The brake system in the test cars could be switched on and off, depending on conditions.

The following aspects of ABS were tested in various road conditions to find out what happens when stepping on the brakes hard in these circumstances:

- At high speed
- Driving straight ahead
- Taking a corner
- Braking in front of an obstacle and steering to avoid it at the same time.
- Driving on various road survaces (for instance, a surface with a grip under the *left-hand wheels and slipperiness on the* right),

When applying the brakes hard at high speed without ABS, blockage occurs even when the road surface is dry and the car gets out of control. The tyre profile is frequently completely eradicated.

With ABS, on the other hand, the car stops and remains under control; there is little wear on the tyres.

The same applies to wet and slippery roads — but the advantages of ABS are even more conspicuous in such conditions. The more slippery a road the greater the advantage of ABS. The braking time with ABS to the point of complete standstill is 40 per cent shorter than with conventional brakes.

When braking in a curve, a car with conventional brakes continues to go straight aheada while with ABS it can take the curve without much effort. The same applies for braking and evading action in front of an obstacle.

ABS also proved its superiority with various types of road surface. In one test, the *left* wheels rode on a tarmac surface with good grip while the right wheels had a slippery surface. When applying the brake hard at medium speed, vehicles without ABS turned around their own axis while those with the new brake system continued straight ahead, requiring only slight corrections at the wheel.

Though the tyre tracks when braking hard are somewaht more difficult to distinguish with ABS than with conventional brakes, such legal considerations should not be used against the new system.

If the automobile industry were to equip its medium and small cars with the new brake system, ABS could be produced in large quantities and would thus become considerably cheaper.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 2 February 1980)

■ EXHIBITIONS

Belated attempt to recognise artistic resistance to Third Reich

"Resistance instead of Conformity" is the title of an exhibition of art in the Third Reich in the Badischen Kunstverein in Karlsruhe.

The title could easily lead to misunderstandings and hostile responses.

Many might think that this exhibition of dissident painters and graphic artists in the Third Reich has little to do with art and a lot to do with politics.

The art of the "dissidents" in the Third Reich was dismissed in this country as crude agitation. The work from this period shown in our museums tended to be that of safe and acknowledged masters whose aesthetic standing was assured: Karl Hofer, Willi Geiger, Konrad Félixmüller, Max Ernst, Oskar Kokoschka, Otto Dix, Max Beckmann, Ernst Barlach and Käthe Kollwitz.

Those who in less well-known works protested against the coming and later against the ruling Nazi regime were not though to be worthy of artistic consideration.

This meant we left to the GDR what it needed to demonstrate its "democratic" continuity. It is no accident that 125 of the exhibits come from museums and private collections in the GDR.

There was considerable hesitation about recognising and respecting this aspect of German history — produced outside the borders of Germany itself.

Writers met the same fate as artists in this respect.

It took people a long time to realise that their work was a form of resistance and was continued even after they had emigrated or been driven out of the country.

As for art, the process of reassessment and revaluation did not begin until art historians began to look closely at the works that had been banned from museums and galleries after 1933 as "degenerate."

The 1962 documentation in the Munich *Haus der Kunst* was the first major step in this reappraisal. The reconstruction of the Pranger exhibition had of course little to do with resistance and emigration.

Nor did the Berlin *Akademie der Künste* exhibition "Between Conformity and Resistance — Art in Germany between 1933 and 1945."

Open opposition mainly from emigrants

This exhibition showed the works of artists classified as "degenerate" and works produced in this country under Nazism. It did not sufficiently take into account that open resistance to the Nazis came primarily from the emigré artists.

This realisation of the powerful links between emigration and resistance is the starting point of the Karlsruhe exhibition.

The pictures are not classified according to individual artists but according to where they were painted: Prague, Paris, Switzerland, London, the Soviet Union, Mexico, and Latin America.

The authors have provided a historical longitudinal section in which in many cases emigré artists more from one country to another. Those who emigrated to Prague had to leave and head for Paris when the Germans occupied Czechoslovakia. And when Paris was occupied, they fled to Switzerland, London or New York. These are the main centres of emigration dealt with in the exhibition, with a few works on show which were produced in Brussels or Latin America. Then there are the works of those who stayed in this country: Käthe Kollwith, Ernst Barlach, Willi Geiger, Hans and Lea Grundig, Otto Pankok and Konrad Felixmüller; and the Karlsruhe realists, Karl Hubbuch, Erwin Spuler, Willi Müller Hufschmidt. When the emphasis is so clearly on resistance and conformity, the question of artistic quality seems to play a secondary part.



No glory, only misery in the Third Reich. Felix Nussbaum's 1943 work shows himself with his Jewish pass. (Photo: Catalogue)

But the question of quality must be asked all the same because the question of artistic means and forms of expression is part of the political theme, inextricably bound up with struggle, misery, suffering, imprisonment, camps, exile, war.

The exhibition shows how limited the artistic means were. The dominant forms are the small forms, the medium the various printing techniques: wood and linoleum cuts, lithography.

This material was, on the one hand easier to get hold of. On the other, the reproducibility of this work meant that it could reach large numbers. There are few big oil paintings or even cycles of paintings at the exhibition.

In this sector, much of the work is familiar: Otto Dix's extraordinary "Seven Deadly Sins", painted in 1933, a kind of apocalypse: the central figure is an old hag with an ugly dwarf on her back with a Hitler moustache.

Then there is Kokoschka's *Wofür wir Kämpfen* ("What We're Fighting for"), an allegory from the Zurich Kunsthaus.

Comparatively unknown — and for this reason the discovery of the exhibition — are four oil paintings by Felix Nussbaum, realistic paintungs in brown, yellow and ochre tones, showing the fate of Jews and camp inmates.

The pictures of the damned in the camps, their hollow-cheeked faces marked by suffering, the boy with the Star of David standing alone on the street in front of a sheer wall, incomprehending, cheated of his childhood, abandoned by his parents, for a death camp.

Felix Nussbaum is an extraordinary painter whose work has been unjustly neglected until now.

Born in 1904, he studied in Hamburg and fled to Belgium in 1933. In 1940 he was deported to the internment camps in Gurs and Cyprien in the south of France. He managed to escape to Brussels, where he was arrested again. He probably died in a Polish death camp.

The lino cut series of illustrations by Carl Meffert entitled *Nacht über Deutschland*, produced in Argentina under the pseudonym Clement Moreau, is also impressive.

So is the woodcut series by Reinhold Schmidhagen on the Spanish Civil War and the bombing of Guernica.

This exhibition shows very clearly that resistance to national socialism started very early and continued in manifold and individual ways both in emigration and in Germany itself.

The Republic did not begin from zero point in 1945. Perhaps the Karlsruhe exhibition's greatest achievement is to remind us of this. *Horst Tim Lehner*

(Rheinischer Merkur / Christ und Welt, 8 February 1980)

Award-winning museum brings town's history to life

Two rooms from the same period: in the living room of a fairly well-off worker's family we find the inevitable patriotic paintings above the neo-renaissance style cabinet and the plush sofa.

The bourgesois living room is rather more expensively, but scarcely more tastefully, furnished. The floor in the workers' home is of plain wooden planks, in the bourgeois home the floor is parquet.

Two dolls represent the typical inhabitants: the worker's wife is sewing at a sewing machine (make: Opel), the bourgeois gentlewoman is embroidering.

This presentation of a scene, in which the visitor is left to draw his own conclusions, is typical of the Rüsselsheim Town Museum where models of the two rooms are on display. It is part of the effort that has prompted the Council of Europe's Museum Prize for "an important contribution to a new understanding of history".

Another contrast: a Rüsselsheim factory owner — according to the original design it was Adam Opel — had a house designed in 1894 with seven rooms on the ground floor.

The typical Rüsselsheim workers' house at the turn of the century was usually a terraced house with a living room, a bedroom and a kitchen. Often, pigs, goats and hens would be kept in a shed near the house.

Still, at least these workers could afford to buy their own house. Those who worked for Adam Opel got loans without difficulty because their jobs were considered safe.

The museum also shows the favourable position of the town of Rüsselsheim. It lived and grew with Adam Opel's entrepreneurial energy and its inhabitants often identified with the firm in which they earned their bread.

In the glass cases of the exhibition the workers' cups look crude in comparison with the delicate porcelain of the upper middle classes, but in this town, it seems, workers and industrialists were never as alienated from one another as in many other industrial town.

And the transition from the old, proud but parsimonious craftsman's existence to impersonal industrial labour does not seem to have been as great as it is often depicted.

Museum director Peter Schirmbeck and his staff saw this as an opportunity. It meant that in the special industrialisation section of the museum opened in November they could present town history and culture objectively, without taking sides.

They allow the facts to speak for themselves and bring the past to life with all kinds of clever ideas. The visitor not only sees a heavy motorbike from the early days of motorisation but also its first proud owner, photographed straddling his machine.

Little things like this make the museum more interesting, mediate between the visitor and the objects at the exhibition, prod the memories of the old and arouse the curiosity of the young.

There are many possibilities of gathering information: from documents, photos, manuscripts, acoustic examples, of course Opel products: sewing machines, bicycles, lathes, cars, motors, aeroplane engines.

Art — and this is rare in a museum of this kind — is not something ... and special but part of historical ...

Of course there are more striking examples to underline the increasing confidence and "artworthiness" of the working class than the French ... seeker from the second half of the century. But she is impressive nonetheless.

Later social conflicts are illustrated ... the work of Käthe Kollwitz and Heartfield's collages dominated ... litical polemics against the Nazis.

The Nazis not get things their way in Rüsselsheim, though ...

Continued on page 12

■ THE ARTS

An operatic controversy begins in Cologne

The relations between Church and State is a dangerous, heavily charged subject, especially in a city such as Cologne — regardless of who tackles the subject.

Cologne was for centuries the residence of the archbishop and Rome's bridgehead to this part of the world. Cologne Cathedral was a central symbol for German Catholics. And all this history has of course left its mark on the city and its citizens.

It is no accident that Schönberg's opera "Moses and Aaron" was not produced in Cologne until 46 years after it was composed. That was in 1978.

And even then Cologne Theatre Director Michael Hampe considered the subject matter and the way director Hans Neugebauer presented it so sensitive that he got the blessing of representatives of the public and various religious groups before giving the go-ahead.

How true Heine's wicked observations in *Deutschland — Ein Wintermärchen* were!

However, now Hampe seems to be convinced of the need to look at the problem of relations between church and state even in the opera.

Only a year and a half after the Schönberg production, the same controversy has arisen again at the première of Penderecki's opera "The Devils of Loudun", first presented in 1969. Again the director is Hans Neugebauer.

If Neugebauer remains true to form we can expect to see Honegger's *Johanna auf dem Scheiterhaufen* ("St Joan at the Stake"), Pfitzner's *Palestrina*, Hindemith's *Mathis der Maler* and perhaps even Penderecki's *Paradise Lost*.

The conflict between the individual and the masses was already a prominent feature of Neugebauer's *Moses* and *Aaron* production: he showed the Jews as hesitant, even reluctant to follow Moses on the way to the one God.

And there is a parallel to this in his version of *The Devils of Loudun*, except that this time the situation is reversed.

Thousands of years have of course passed between Moses and the events in the Loudun presbytery in 1634. The Catholic Church has become a mass movement, authoritarian and intolerant, unwilling to brook contradiction from anywhere, let alone from an individual. Furthermore this individual must at some time have committed a sin. It is enough to denounce him. Pater Grandier of *Loudun* is denounced by Jeanne, prioress of the Ursulines, because he rejected her sexual advances. And Grandier is burnt at the stake in the name of the Lord.

Neugebauer has looked closely and highly productively at the history of the town and its citizens under the sign of the cross. But he does not exaggerate anything voyeuristically or opportunistically.

Neugebauer's cautious, low-key approach is shown by a comparison with Rennert's exemplary production in Stuttgart in 1969.

In Neugebauer's version, the nuns do not take their clothes off even at the height of their sexual hysteria and in the bathing scene Grandier, like his lover, remains chastely clothed.

Neugebauer avoids this form of provocation and instead concentrates on provoking in other, more radical, ways.

For example Pater Barré in the exorcism scene takes advantage of Jeanne's randiness to indulge in a spot of copulation, and priests devise bizarre methods of driving the devils out of nuns. All under the wide and musty cloak of mother Church.

Opportunists take their chance, and go unpunished. Grandier, however, the outsider, is spied on, pursued, suspected. Suddenly, doors have eyes and ears.

The small openings in the between-scenes curtain — could they be eyes and ears? From them and through them the surgeon and the apothecary spy on the pater, waiting to catch him at something and denounce him. When the curtain goes up, we see several well-designed spaces (by Klaus and Christiane Gelhaar) and to the right and left are the choir.

Penderecki's 'The Devils of Loudun': a low-key production. (Photo: Stefan Odry)

The actions and visions we see on the stage become like snapshots: picture documents of the stations of the cross. The stake at which Grandier is burnt is shaped like a cross and before he is burnt a sponge of vinegar is shoved into his mouth with a spear.

Neugebauer leaves no doubt that Grandier is innocent and that we are witnesses to a murder. A murder in the name of the Lord, carried out by his arrogant and self-righteous representatives on earth.

The excellent acting makes this performance serious, compelling and convincing.

Victor Braun as Grandier, for instance, is outstanding — a strong personality who despite his worldly weaknesses and the hostility shown him, retains dignity.

A perfect performance. And the voice and acting of Gerlinde Lorenz as Jeanne were equally good. Wolfgang Rennert steers this musically difficult work safely around all reefs. The orchestra and the choir were in fine fettle. Rennert resisted the temptation of pomp and pathos. His version aims only at comprehensibility and accuracy. *Dieter Kölmel*

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 7 February 1980)

Amid faults a touch of genius

Thomas Brasch's play *Lieber Georg* (Dear Georg) was premiered at the Bochum Schauspielhaus.

The Georg of the title is the poet Georg Heym, one of the forerunners of expression, but it takes some time before even literary aficionados tumble to this.

The play is subtitled: "A Pre-War Ice Skater Drama." Is this a reference to the fact that Heym and his friend Ernst Balcke drowned in 1912 while out skating on the river Havel in Berlin?

Or are we meant to think of the proverb: "When an ass is feeling too comfortable, he goes onto the ice.".

Or perhaps the poem we learnt at school about The Little Boy on the Ice. Here, however, the boy is rescued in the last second when someone catches him by his hair.



A scene from Thomas Brasch's 'Lieber Georg'. (Photo: Thomas Eichhorn)

In this play, Georg's dad is determined that his son should not become a poet. In the first words of the opening scene, entitled *Oedipus in Charlottenburg*, Georg's dad wants to put him into a court archive and "put a few exclamation marks on his cheek with my sabre."

Georg however has his ideals and wants to invent a new religion, even though he sometimes behaves like an animal. He would like to be called "Block" instead of ending up "finished ridiculously early" beneath the ice.

Does Thomas Brasch regard himself as an ass who woos danger out of intellectual presumption? One thing is clear: Brasch, who came to West Germany in 1976 after difficulties in the GDR, is a loner, an individualist ("I represent no one but myself"). He resembles Heym in that he, too, sees "slippery ice" everywhere.

Lieber Georg is not a drama, though, more of a lyrical-dramatic cycle of poems with each scene getting its own sub-heading. The average theatregoer has to put together from the encoded language something resembling a plot, though there is in fact no plot.

In Brasch's collages and quotations he must track down a *leitmotiv* connecting the pre-war period Heym lived in with today. Brasch-Heym writes "from left to right" and not "from top to bottom" as the "three principles" of a dictatorial republic demand. "He writes from left to right. That is asking for rebellion. Cut off his hand."

They do not cut off his hand but, worse, they cut out his tongue on the orders of his friend Balcke in the costume of Sun Yat Sen.

However, his lover Jeni, played by Jessica Früh, soon stitches it back on again. And what are Heym's first words: "Dear Posterity."

Lieber Georg is a "play as an experiment" written with "fear of art."

How can art capture today and yesterday? The experiment is similar, in its treatment of time for instance, to a dream play.

In spite of all its apparent lack of form, there are touches of genius in *Lieber Georg*, especially in the language.

Manfred Karge, who plays the part of ice skater Heym with admirable empathy, is also the co-director, along with Matthias Langhoff.

To the wet, an ice rink at the turn of the century, they have added and eked out a lot scenically and textually; for example by repetitions of the text.

The opening, in which dozens of schoolchildren dance and skate on the ice, is striking — and this is before the play proper starts. The love scenes are not without erotic flair; the scene with Sun Yat Sen and his Chinese warriors is dramatic and aggressive.

Of course there was perplexity among some of the audience. But the jubilant applause at the end left nothing to be desired. *Wilhelm Unger*

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 8 February 1980)

■ EDUCATION

Medical students rebel over new qualification procedures

Medical students are rebelling against changes which make it more difficult for them to become doctors.

The cause of the argument is a change to the procedure of admission to the medical profession — the third change in seven years.

Pent-up emotions of students erupted this month during a discussion in Frankfurt.

The crux of the dispute lies with two proposals by a special commission appointed by the Bonn Health Ministry.

(The commission consisted of representatives of medical associations, hospitals, medical students, health insurance companies, trade unions and various government authorities).

It wants medical training to be extended by the introduction of a compulsory internship year following the already existing "practical year."

It has also suggested additional oral examinations in all phases of medical training to supplement the controversial multiple choice (MC) examinations.

Originally, the MC system was to provide a certain justice in the examination procedure. Until its introduction, medical students took oral examinations only.

The evaluation of the MC exams has since 1974 have been made by the Mainz-based Institute for Medical and Pharmaceutical Examinations (IMPF), which also drafts the questions on a multiple-choice basis with one of them having to be ticked as right.

Spread over the entire medical study period, the students have to answer 1,160 questions during four separate exam phases.

Until the autumn examinations last year, 50 per cent correct answers was considered a pass. This has now been raised to 60 per cent. The result is that the number of "fails" has risen in the examinations at the end of the fourth semester.

In Frankfurt, for instance, 40.7 per cent were unable to take the 60 per cent hurdle. Small wonder, then, that opposition among medical students is growing.

Emotions exploded during a discussion in Frankfurt. The anger of the students was directed primarily at the director of IMPF, the jurist Hans-Joachim Krämer.

Krämer was accused of manipulating competition and selection among students. Student representatives said that they wanted to abolish the 60 per cent clause — if necessary by massive pressure.

They also rejected proposals to supplement the present examination system by additional oral exams. Some of them even advocated abolishing uniform nation-wide examinations.

The discussion on our present unfortunate examination system must be seen in context with overall medical training in this country which lacks practical experience and concentrates too much on specialised theoretical training.

Manfred Steinbach of the Bonn Health Ministry told the Frankfurt meeting that a qualitative improvement of medical training was unlikely if the number of students continued to grow.

The students, on the other hand, argued that this was a "political issue" and that training facilities should be adapted to the growing number of students. They called for reforms of the five-year course of medical study with a view to greater emphasis on practical training.

But how is practical experience to be conveyed *within this short time and* considering the 11,000 new medical students every year? No useful proposals on this score have been put forward.

The recently introduced "practical year" that follows the five-year univ ty training has turned out to be ganisational failure.

The hospitals are unable to cope masses of students seeking prac training.

Those serving their practical year that they are left to their own de and that the training is useless be qualified doctors do not take the ti instruct the students or becaus hospital doctors themselves are young and still learning", as the m director of a Frankfurt hospital put

The hospitals are concerned ov fact that the students come to with a great deal of detailed know *but lack the broad theoretical* fo tions that will enable them to gear future medical work to the needs of patients.

While the medical associations b ing this in mind, advocate addi oral examinations, more practical t ing after university and a broader t retical knowledge with a gradual t tion to practical work, the stu demand practical training during university studies and not after co tion of medical school.

They contend that the oppositio this from the medical association motivated by fear of competition o part of established doctors. They maintain that the whole thing is a tempt to extend "unpaid work" gives the student no rights whatsoe

But the extension of practical wor at least one year is "virtually a fore conclusion", as Herr Steinbach told Frankfurt meeting.

It seems equally certain that so *the students will take militant* a against the new regulations, initially rected primarily at the examination tem.

Helga Beyersdörfer-Sch

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 7 Februar

Professors not happy over reform scheme

Proposals to open up German universities have come under fire from the universities themselves.

The critics are worried about a section of the draft principles for reform handed to the universities from comment.

The passage says that it is up to the *Länder* to open universities to suitable *applicants without the normally required* qualifications.

One critic, Theodor Berchem, of Würzburg University, told a press conference *in Bonn that this was a "most important item requiring critical discussion."*

He added that the foremost skills to impart to a chemist must obviously be those that will make him a good chemist.

People entering universities on the new basis would have to show their capabilities during their course.

The change is primarily intended to provide "qualified working people with a better opportunity to obtain a university education."

The project originates with the Standing Commission for Study Reforms. The guideline for the reform of university curriculae stresses under the heading "Qualification of Students" that it is necessary to convey not only professional but "social" skills as well.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 6 February 1980)

University plan to soothe those first-year pains

Dear first-year student, I am your counselling professor and I could well imagine that you could do with some help learning the ropes at university. I shall be happy to help ..."

This type of letter, unique for Germany's universities, has been sent out since last year's summer semester at Freiburg University which has an enrolment of 18,500 with a staff of 6,500.

Rector Bernhard Stoeckle, who deplores the lack of communication and person-to-person contact as one of the worst evils of our academic assembly line, is the initiator of the idea.

What he had in mind was not the revival of an old institution whereby professors gathered small groups of students around them for discussion of academic subjects but purely and simply help in coping with day-to-day life at university.

Professor Stoeckle: "Loneliness at university leads to disgruntlement, poor performance and unhappiness."

So he called on professors and students to form contact and information groups. Some 1,000 letters were sent to newcomers and 400 professors were asked to join the scheme.

The success of the project was not overwhelming, University Administrator Dr Torsten von Podewils told *Die Welt.*

"It was difficult to get professors and students to go along with the scheme."

Professors are not exactly amused when, having invited a group of students to have a glass of wine or a cup of cof*fee with them, only two of the five* invited show up. Frequently, the professor waits in vain.

About one-third of first-year students (about 300) and one-third of the professors took part in the initial stages of the project — not enough to cause euphoria, but enough to continue with it.

"We have come to realise that professors, too, must be motivated, and we seem to have managed it", says Dr von Podewils.

After the initial near defeat, there now seems to be more willingness to cooperate. The number of participating students has risen from 300 to more than 2,000, but this is largely due to the gr ter number of new enrolments, 1,000 the summer semester and 3,400 for t winter semester.

And since the number of particip in a group has been raised from five 10 and close to three-quarters of t professors have decided to take part, dividual counselling and person-to-p son contacts are now the order of t day in Freiburg.

There are, however, exceptions. Th studying uncommon subjects, such oriental studies or sinology, work small groups anyway, and any institu nalisation of contact groups would only be meaningless but would ha rather than promote person-to-pe relations.

Another exception is the law sch Last summer, the jurists *refused to* ticipate, says Dr von Podewils.

Despite initial hopes that this only stubbornness on the part of the culty and that things would improv the next semester, nothing has chang

But the initiators of the program remain undaunted and are determine continue.

It is hoped that other universities soon emulate Freiburg. Inquiries hav ready been received and they now to be biding their time pending the come of the Freiburg project this ester.

Horst St

(Die Welt, 6 February 19

Museum

Continued from page 10

workers were politically split in the Weimar Republic — there were even two company papers: *Opel-Prolet* (communist) and *Am laufenden Band* (social democrat).

The title of the latter was a reference to Germany's first assembly line, installed in 1924.

And in 1933 the KPD paper *Rote Sirene* courageously raised its voice in protest. Nonetheless, most kept their mouths shut, whatever they really though of the Nazi regime.

An often-heard phrase at the time was "Talking means Osthofen, keeping mum means home" — a reference to Osthofen concentration camp, to which many Rüsselsheim workers were transported.

One anti-fascist Opel worker died in Plötzensee in 1942: his courageous farewell letter is a document of human greatness.

The museum shows those too young to know where the Third Reich led: on show are bunker doors and gas masks, steel helmets, grenades and Nazi military decorations. From the immediate post-war period we see primitive devices made of US tins, the filter of a gas mask used as a strainer — the end of an age as people got ready for a fresh start.

The museum cannot complain about a lack of visitors: 86 pages of the visitors' book have been filled since the beginning of November. A child has written: "I found my great granddad Jacob Jourdan."

History as family history.

Gabriele Nicol

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 2 February 1980)

■ MEDICINE

Heart attack victims no longer 'forced' to be invalids

Everyone who has a heart attack experiences this sudden and often unexpected confrontation with death in his own way.

The patient then has to take drugs and medicines every day, and this reminds him of his illness, even though *he no longer feels any other symptoms.* What remains is the fear that he could have another attack which might be fatal.

This fear prevents him returning to a normal life, and makes him take things easier than he in fact needs to.

One of the main reasons for this widespread attitude among heart patients is the therapies for heart attacks which were common 10 years ago.

Doctors then believed that patients should stay in bed for as long as possible after the attack — four weeks was regarded as the absolute minimum.

Then he was gradually "put on his feet", started walking and doing gymnastic exercises.

Doctors and nurses believed that too much physical exercise would lead to another attack.

And it was not until half a year after the attack that the victim was sent on a cure, where again he took it easy rather than doing any strenuous exercise.

No wonder the patient still felt a sick *man when he returned to his normal* way of life, wanted to be mothered and had little inclination to return to his job.

Hannoversche Allgemeine

The influence of the doctors and his environment made him an invalid.

This form of therapy is now outmoded. Today, medical science knows far more about the biochemical processes that lead to heart attacks.

And so a new therapy has been evolved, which keeps the patient active.

This is one way of learning for example the signals from the heart which make immediate intervention necessary. By the electrocardiogram doctors can keep a precise check on how the heart muscles react to physical exertion.

Finally, drugs can ensure the supply of blood to the heart and reduce excitement.

These medical insights and possibilities have now radically changed the treatment.

The modern therapy technique is as follows: treatment in intensive care units immediately after the attack; then transfer to a rehabilitation clinic. When he is released treatment continues in "co*ronary groups." There are now 200 such* groups in West Germany.

Professor Ernst Otto Krasemann of Hamburg said recently at a patients' seminar on coronary heart diseases in Hamburg: "After the heart attack the patient can again lead an almost normal life."

However, the patient must change his life style. The risk factors which led to the heart attack must be largely eliminated by movement therapy and going on a diet.

Patients must give up smoking, and cannot simply opt out of treatment on their own initiative either. But do doctors simply have to forbid their patients everything that makes life worth living?

Of course this is not always necessary. What is necessary is for patients to be motivated to work actively on their own health and not just to be treated passively. It is known for example that many do not take their medicines regularly.

Professor M. J. Halhuber, of Höhenried, said that only half heart patients sticks to his doctor's instructions and take tablets regularly.

Many patients also fail to take the doctor's warning seriously because they feel fit again only a few months after the attack.

These coronary groups, if they use the various institutions in Hamburg (for example sports clubs and evening classes) can play an important part in rehabilitation and provide a way out of this therapeutic dilemma.

Talks with fellow-sufferers often make *patients realise that their private prob*lems are not so important.

And in these groups patients are given the information the doctors did not give them or which they misinterpreted.

Konrad Möller-Christiansen

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 8 February 1980)

Queues grow for kidney transplants

Every year, hundreds of patients with kidney diseases wait for a transplant, but the number of donors organs available is small.

This means that many patients go on having to be treated by dialysis, the purification of the blood by osmosis.

In turn this means that an increase in dialysis capacity is necessary. One reason is that some patients who have had kidney transplants later reject the implanted kidney and have to go back on to kidney machines while waiting for another transplant.

The Home Dialysis Curatorium in Neu-Isenburg near Frankfurt was founded privately in 1969.

It now takes care of over 1,000 patients, some in the centre, some at home.

About 3,500 people depend on kidney machines and there are about 260 new patients a year.

In these centres, located all over West Germany, patients are taught by specially trained doctors and nurses how to use the artificial kidneys.

In two-month courses they learn how to clean and set up the dialyser, how to keep records of the most important data — regular blood and dialysis samples are taken — and what to do in the event of complications.

One of the doctors teaching on these courses says learning all this is about as *difficult as learning to drive.*

The curatorium provides the patients with dialysers and sees to it that the necessary devices and equipment are installed.

It buys and distributes aids and medicines, reimburses electricity, water and telephone costs arising from the dialysis and pays the insurances to cover any possible damage.

The costs of treatment for the one thousand or so patients come to DM3.2m per month. This is covered by donations from the National Clerical Employees' Insurance Association, the various *Land* insurance schemes and donations from private foundations.

If the patient's health permits it, dialysis is often done at night so that the patient can work normally. The usual rhythm for treatment is once every two days.

Theoretically, patients could undergo dialysis in the dialysis department of any hospital they happen to be in, but this involves considerable problems.

The curatorium has four holiday centres each with two dialysers but this could not be done on a large scale.

It means for instance that patients in Frankfurt can only go to St. Blasien, because that is the only centre using the Frankfurt system.

In future they are hoping to make swaps so that patients who have been taking holidays in the Black Forest for years get the chance to go to the Baltic as well.

The Curatorium for Home Dialysis has now changed its statutes and wants, for the sake of chronic kidney patients to reduce costs, to concentrate more on kidney transplants and encourage people to donate kidneys.

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 3 February 1980)

Drug test plan for worried parents

Chemists in Wiesbaden have offered to help parents who think their children are on drugs. They will test, without charge, substances the parents suspect may be a drug.

As the magazine *Apotheken-Praxis* reported, it is the first experiment of its kind in the country.

Under present laws, pharmacists would be obliged to report names of anyone bringing drugs for them to test.

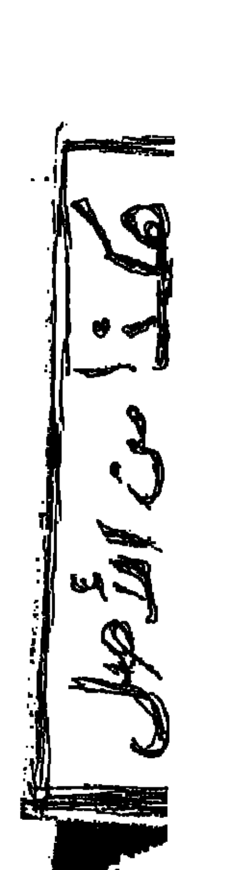
This obstcle has now been removed. The Hessian Minister of Justice and Social Affairs has promised "unbureaucratic support."

All the pharmacists now need is permission from the National Health Office to "possess comparative drugs for investigative purposes."

Once this permission has been given, parents will be able to take "suspicious" substances along to the local pharmacist who will test it and tell them what it is.

dpa

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 7 February 1980)



■ SOCIETY

Anatomy of an abortion: committee reports on liberalised laws

A committee of experts has produced a 600-page report analysing the effects of the last amendment to West Germany's Abortion Act, which was liberalised six years ago.

It spent three years interviewing women, doctors, hospitals, and counselling centres.

The report has come up with comparisons with legislation in foreign countries and has pinpointed where help should be intensified and counselling expanded.

It also shows where the lawmakers' intentions were not realised.

The emphasis of the amended Section 218, the report says, lies on the counselling of pregnant women: the woman is to receive full information on medically relevant aspects and, above all, on the available, private and public sector help for expecting mothers and their children especially help likely to facilitate continued pregnancy and improve the position of mother and child.

The report delves at length into the question whether practice so far has fulfilled the intention of the lawmakers.

In doing so, the committee has tried to show the differences between individual counselling centres and their methods.

It distinguishes between state and municipal centres and those supported by private organisations, primarily the protestant and catholic Churches, the Workers' Welfare Organisation and *pro familia*, a non-profit organisation for the promotion of family life.

In mid-1979, the Workers' Welfare Organisation had 43 publicly recognised counselling centres, *pro familia* 60, the Protestant Church 156, the Catholic



Church 177 and other organisations such as women's groups, 28.

Pro familia and Workers' Welfare Organisation employ considerably more doctors as counsellors than do other organisations, and that with pay.

The Protestant centres employ and above average number of psychologists of whom 60 per cent work full time.

The Catholic Church uses primarily social workers.

"The counsellors of all these organisations try to show as much understanding and acceptance of their clients as possible," says the report.

But it also points out the difficulties with which the counsellors have to cope and why they are frequently unsuccessful if one takes the text of the Act as a criterion: some 90 per cent of women go to the counsellor with the preconceived decision to abort.

The counselling is viewed as a duty because only by consulting one of the centres can they legally abort.

Frequently they feel that the counsellor's questions have the character of an interrogation, they are afraid to say the wrong thing and therefore opt not to talk about their problems at all.

Although the report confirms that all counsellors go out of their way to understand the position of the woman concerned, it finds that "this ends where the counsellor's own set of values comes to the fore.

"The Catholic centres confront the client with that Church's stand and try to prevail on her to accept motherhood."

In some cases, this attitude can also be found in Protestant centres, especially with women who want to abort for reasons unacceptable to the counsellor.

"Essentially, however, the Protestant, *pro familia* and Workers' Welfare counsellors accept the decision of the woman as being right from her own point of view and in terms of her particular situation.

"In the case of undecided women, they try to make them arrive at the most sensible decision — a decision they can later live with," says the report.

This difference in attitude, whereby *the Protestants more readily accept the* women's own decision than do the Catholics, also becomes apparent when it comes to shedding light on a conflict: the Catholic counsellors usually consider abortion for psychosocial reasons "an apparent solution only because the original problem responsible for the wrong decision, i. e. a personality disorder, remains unresolved."

The counsellors without church affiliation, on the other hand, frequently consider an abortion as a means of de*fusing a conflict* or, *indeed*, solving it.

The committee has found that women who have a choice usually pick the counselling centre most likely to confirm their own preconceived attitude.

It would certainly be wrong to conclude from these findings that the counselling centres are superfluous ... most women seeking their help are determined to abort come what may; the decision process is completed before they see the counsellor.

Some of the women are still undecided when they seek advice, and what they want is to talk to somebody who will give them self confidence, courage and help.

It is most regrettable, the report states, that the counselling centres are mostly used as something one has to go through.

Massive information work and new concepts are required here.

Ada Brandes

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 10 February 1980)

Women who have had an abortion under the liberalised Abortion Act support the legislation more than women who have not had the same experience.

The first group, in general, say that the law is still not liberal enough.

Opponents and supporters of liberalised abortion unanimously decided in the Bundestag six years ago to have the experience with the new Act reviewed by an independent committee.

The results of the review seem to favour the proponents rather than the opponents.

The new Act has improved the position of many women, the report says, but there is no reason to be smug.

Legislation 'a help for women'

For instance: the assumption that counselling could motivate women to keep their babies proved unwarranted. 90 per cent of women approach the counselling centres with the firm decision to abort.

Discomfiture over this legally enforced counselling, as expressed in the report, is shared by the SPD and FDP.

But the legal position being what it is the Bonn Government can promise little *more than to start a pilot scheme* to test a shorter counselling and legal procedure.

The opposition is well aware that two thirds of the population reject any return to more stringent legislation.

As a result, no new parliamentary initiatives will come from that quarter.

But the discussion goes on, and the experience of those concerned will have its effect on the public's view of what is equitable. Time works for rather than against further liberalisation.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1 February 1980)

The day daughter put the cat among the pigeons

Bremer Nachrichten

It happens every day: *the daughter* comes home one day and tells her parents that she is going to marry a Turk.

As a rule, that puts the cat among the pigeons.

Everybody tries to make her see reason, and although none of these people have ever been in Turkey, they tell the girl with a great deal of drama how women in the Eastern countries are repressed, how brutal orientals are to their wives and about all the problems she is bound to have with her children.

Since the war, more than 400,000 German women have married foreigners: 200,000 men have done the same — but that is a different story. When a man introduces a Turkish woman as his wife his friends are likely to wink at him understandingly.

When a woman introduces a Turk as her husband at a party, it is likely to be the last party she is invited to.

This double standard prompted Frau Wolf-Alamansreh in 1972 to form the Interest Group of German Women Married to Foreigners which now has 40 offices throughout the country.

Most women know next to nothing about the cultural background in which their foreign husband-to-be grew up.

They do not know that they will marry not only the man but his entire family, and they have no idea of what hospitality means in the East.

All this they find out when their husbands *bring home a group of their* fellow countrymen, unannounced.

The situation can become truly critical when they decide to bed down in her home because they have not yet been able to find quarters.

Frau Wolf-Alamansreh has a piece of *good advice for the parents of girls set* to marry an oriental: "Don't throw your daughter out of the house. This would be the biggest mistake you could make."

She points out that the family is of paramount importance in the Orient and that children obey their parents implicitly.

Being brought up in this way, the husband is bound to respect his new wife should she attempt to mediate in a crisis.

The Interest group has a vast programme to implement: it wants to bring about legal reforms, provide more security for those subject to our aliens' legislation, promote the integration of foreigners in our society and make it impossible to deport a foreigner married to a German woman.

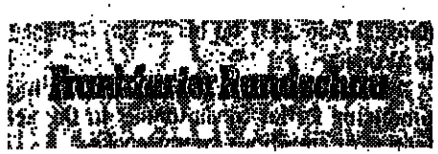
Since all this can no longer be done with voluntary helpers, the interest group is now applying for government subsidies.

dpa

(Bremer Nachrichten, 7 February 1980)

■ SPORT

Four records broken at indoor championships



Four indoor athletics records were broken during the 11th German indoor championships, and four more were all but broken.

And this despite the absence of many leading athletes. Some were injured. Some do not like competing indoors.

And for others, the date of the event did not suit because training schedules are geared to the Olympic Games in Moscow — though the uncertainty about whether the Games will take place cannot help their preparation much.

Many leading German athletes may also be reluctant to compete in the European championships on 1 and 2 March.

Some of the performances at the championships were remarkable. Anke Weigt of Leverkusen broke Heide Rosendahl's 1971 long jump record of 6.68 metres with 6.71 metres.

And Herr Busse from Cologne did not do badly in the men's long jump either, with 7.91 metres.

Before that Christian Haas from Fürth – son of former silver medal winner Karl Friedrich Haas – broke his own 60 metres record, running the distance in 6.65 metres. But this did not help him in the final, where he was beaten by a nose by Bastians of Wattenscheid.

Franz-Peter Hofmeister of Leverkusen won two titles, running a personal indoor best of 46.56 seconds in the 400 metres and helping the Bayer-Leverkusen team run the 4x400 metres relay in 3.09.1 minutes.

Maybe Hofmeister, holder of two European titles, thought he ought to do something a bit special after receiving the Silver Laurel from Willy Weyer, president of the German Sports Association.

Pole vault star Günther Lohre did not attempt a vault until his two main rivals, Heinrich from Mainz and surprise package Walpurgis from Cologne, had failed to vault 5.35 metres.

Lohre went on to vault 5.51 metres and the manner of his doing it suggested he is capable of even greater things.

The high jumpers were also in fine fettle. Mögenburg, world record holder in the outdoor high jump failed by only a centimetre to beat the indoor record of 2.28 metres.

Second-placed Thränhardt failed at 2.24 metres, though he still managed to beat that man Walpurgis into third place (Walpurgis jumped 2.18 metres).

The result here might have been different if Gerd Nagel, (Frankfurt) recently the most consistent West German high-jumper had been able to compete. He was recovering from injury and saving himself for the European indoor championships in Sindelfingen next month.

Nagel's injury was a great loss for the Hesse team, which had the disadvantage of not having a hall with the right training facilities.

In the circumstances, Wolfram Walter of Eintracht Frankfurt did exceptionally well with 15.63 metres in the triple jump which put him in third place.

Joachim Rechner, also of Eintracht Frankfurt, did well to come 5th in the 60 metres hurdles. His time was 8.02 seconds against a winning time of 7.854 seconds by Kratschmer.

Veronika Czorny of LG Frankfurt also got a creditable 6th place in the women's shot putt with 15.12 metres. In this event, Eva Wilms with a winning putt of 19.48 metres dominated the opposition along with her fellow-athletes from Fürth.

In the women's high jump Ulrike Meyfarth, with a jump of 1.86 metres,



Anke Weigt: new long jump mark. (Photo: Werek)

was unbeatable in the absence of her old rival, Brigitte Holzapfel.

Anja Wolf of LG Frankfurt only came 11th, jumping 1.75 — undoubtedly a result of the poor facilities in Hesse. The same applies in the case of Pfaff from Hanau who only jumped 2 metres in the men's high jump, though he has already jumped 2.13 metres elsewhere.

The Frankfurt Eintracht trio of Syra, Michael and Reibold nearly caused a sensation in the 3x1,000 metres relay. They moved into the lead near the end as a number of runners from other teams fell, but they faded and ended up fourth, in a good time of 7 mins 17.3 seconds.

This underlined the need for adequate indoor training facilities in Hesse.

This certainly also played a part in the elimination of Carlo Seck of LG Frankfurt. He simply could not stand the pace on the last lap of the 1,500 metres.

So the German indoor championships are over and the season proper will soon get under way. But next winter will be round again soon and without decent indoor facilities what will Hesse's athletes do then?

Wilhelm Grün

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 February 1980)

Skier 'pulls out' of Lake Placid run

West German downhill racing star Sepp Ferstl "voluntarily" decided not to take part in the downhill event in Lake Placid, according to German Skiing Association (DSV) director Helmut Weinbuch after the first day of training.

He said that "all credit should be given to Ferstl" for this decision. Ferstl was injured in a fall recently.

Ferstl himself could not comment on the statement at the time as he was inspecting the 2,928 metre downhill piste.

His explanation of his voluntary decision did not square with the official one: "Yesterday evening I was asked to see three gentlemen, official Fischer, director Weinbruch and trainer Glaner.

"They said that I ought not to compete in the downhill race. They said they were sorry but team doctor Bär could not guarantee my full fitness before seeing me again."

The DSV had got this news from Dr Bär over the phone. He had not yet flown to Lake Placid.

What annoys Sepp Ferstl is that he was fully examined in Grosshadern clinic in Munich and the doctor who examined him said he was fit and it was entirely up to him whether he competed. *Only then did he fly to the USA.*

"If I had known in Munich that the officials would forbid me to compete, I would not have come here at all.

"They have just been fobbing me off with excuses: I would not have come to *Lake Placid just for the Giant Slalom*, which I have been given permission to compete in.

"I would have competed in Europa Cup races to prepare for the final world



Sepp Ferstl: all unclear on the piste. (Photos: Werek)

cup race. As things are, I cannot race here.

"Of course I realise I would have been taking a big risk at Lake Placid. And perhaps the decision is right, if only because of the insurance. Sports Aid would not have paid the bill if I had fallen again."

It remains to be seen whether Sepp Ferstl will ever compete in a major downhill race again. If he gives up the sport this year, he will try to get a working full time in a ski bindings firm.

He is also thinking of applying for a post as DSV trainer, in which case he would probably give up his present car-making business.

Michael Gernandt

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 February 1980)

Hamburg let Keegan go back home for DM 1.7m

Kevin Keegan: a drop in income. (Photo: Wilfried Witters)

Hamburg SV have transferred their English international forward Kevin Keegan to English club Southampton for DM1.7m.

Keegan signed a two year contract with Southampton, who are lying third in the first division. Hamburg will also get all the gate money for a friendly match against Southampton in Hamburg this August.

Keegan said he wanted to be in England for the preparations for the 1982 world cup in Spain and besides "I have many good friends in Southampton."

It was generally expected that Keegan, winner of 49 England caps, would join one of Juventis Turin, Barcelona, Valencia or Chelsea (London).

Keegan said he would earn less with Southampton than with Hamburg, with whom has been earning around DM400,000 a year as a player.

Income from various advertising contracts brought this up to about DM1m a year.

Keegan and Southampton representatives spent about three and a half hours working out the contract at Keegan's Hamburg home.

Hamburg SV chairman Dr Wolfgang Klein said: "It was the best result for us. There was no chance of persuading Keegan to stay with us." All that remained to be cleared up now were a few minor, formal legal points.

Hamburg manager Branko Zebec said that he had known for some time that Keegan wanted to go and that the chances of his staying were slim. He said Keegan would have to be replaced if Hamburg were to stay at the top.

Zebec was not at the final talks on the transfer on February 10. He spent the weekend in Belgium and Holland running the eye over possible replacements for Keegan.

Hamburg SV officials welcomed the fact that Keegan, this year's European Footballer of the Year, has made a decision. Wolfgang Klein said: "Keegan will now be calmer and more content. He won't have people asking him who he is going to sign for all the time."

The transfer fee will of course be invested.

sid

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 13 February 1980)